

WARE RIVER NEWS

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Father Piotr promoted to vicar

Has loved serving Ware

By Eileen Kennedy
Staff writer

WARE – Not every parish priest is promoted to be the second in command to a bishop, but Ware's will be when Father Piotr Calik leaves his flock to become the vicar general of the Diocese of Springfield under Bishop William Byrne. He will report to the bishop, and will be the moderator of the curia, or administrative affairs. Byrne told the Catholic Communication News, "Father Piotr's many gifts are well-suited for this time of transition."

"I was shocked when I heard," said Calik on Tuesday about his promotion. He also didn't sleep at all the night he was told he would become the diocese's vicar general.

"I love the town of Ware," he said of the two churches he has been ministering to for the last few years, St. Mary's and All Saints. "The people are very caring, they take care of each other and they protect each other. They make sure

Please see **Fr. Piotr**, page 6



Father Piotr Calik during a Christmas service in Ware. He has been promoted to be the vicar general of the Springfield Roman Catholic Diocese.

Courtesy photo

Wednesdays added to Ware's hybrid program

Class failure numbers surprise School Committee

By Eileen Kennedy
Staff writer

WARE – After discussing the first semester's student failure rates at their meeting of Feb. 3, the School Committee voted to add Wednesdays as an in-school day for children in the hybrid program on a rotating basis for all three cohorts. Until now the hybrid schedule has kept Wednesday as a fully remote day for all students.

"We really need to start using these Wednesdays as an in-school day," said School Committee Chairman Christopher Desjardins. "There is no reason why these kids aren't in school on Wednesdays, and we need to start it now."

School Committee members Brian Winslow, Aaron Sawabi, Julie Slattery and Michael Foran all agreed the school district should add Wednesdays to the hybrid schedule.

School Superintendent Dr. Marlene DiLeo said the goal would be to start in-person Wednesdays for the week after February vacation, which would be the week of Feb. 22.

Board of Health member Katrina Velle, who said she was there as a private citizen and a scientist, cautioned the board about doing so.

"Now is not the time to be adding more face-to-face time," she said. "When there are more contagious variants of the virus without teachers being fully vaccinated, that's really risky."

Desjardins acknowledged no decision would be perfect, but said the School Committee doesn't have much of a choice when faced with the failure rates and some students not attending school at all.

Failure rates

DiLeo shared the failure rate of individual classes from fourth to 12th grade. Each failure was a class, so some students could have

Please see **WARE SCHOOL**, page 9

Board votes to change health insurance

Hears some budget requests

By Eileen Kennedy
Staff writer

WARREN – A process that has been discussed on and off years was put into place Monday night when the Quaboag Regional School Committee voted to offer teachers and custodians a different insurance plan through the Massachusetts Interlocal Insurance Association. The new insurance plan would go into effect on July 1.

They voted to accept the recommendation of the School Committee's Budget Subcommittee, which was to change from the current MIA health plan to one called the Benchmark IV health plan. The new plan offers Blue Cross/Blue Shield health insurance, which teachers said throughout the process they wanted to keep. The subcommittee met before the School Committee for two hours on a variety of budget issues.

The vote was 5-0-2, with School Committee Chairman Andrew Schwenker, and members Jason Morgan, Greg Morse, Dustin Atwood and Sarah Tetreault voting in favor of the change and none opposed. Members Craig Burgess and Matthew Peloquin abstained as their spouses work for the district and it has been ruled a conflict-of-interest for them to vote on such matters.

Please see **QUABOAG**, page 2



Courtesy photo

This year as part of the Souper Bowl challenge, the United Church of Ware, ran a soup challenge and due to the town's generosity, received 818 cans of soup for the Jubilee Cupboard, the food pantry at Trinity Episcopal Church.

Souper Bowl challenge a super duper success

By Eileen Kennedy
Staff writer

WARE – For many people, soup is staple, particularly in the winter. Chicken noodle, chicken and rice, cream of mushroom, split pea – everyone has their favorite.

But for some people, particularly this year, they have less to put on the table as layoffs have soared, hours have been cut and jobs have disappeared.

So Kelly Trim, a member of the United Church of Ware, held the congregation's second Souper Bowl drive.

"My goal was 175 cans, since we received 148 last year," Trim said Monday. "I just finished counting the soup, and holy moly, we received 818 cans of soup and 69 other food items for the Jubilee Cupboard."

Trim said she was thrilled the church had been able to gather so much soup, and they received a little help from two businesses.

Ware's Talk of the Town shop, donated 200 cans and Labier's Tree Service donated 180 cans. Big Y supermarket also donated a \$50 gift card.

"It was a great fit for us because we have an organic food store in the shop," said Talk of the Town owner Keith Chouinard. "We wanted to make sure there were healthy food options." He said he plans to do outreach so more people know about the food pantry.

The church also holds an in-gathering of food for the pantry once a month, where people leave nonperishable food items on the altar or in boxes in the church.

"I just want to thank everyone who donated," Trim said.

Rose32 Bread gets approval to offer to-go wine and beer

By Paula Ouimette
Staff Writer

HARDWICK – The Board of Selectmen approved a an off-premise license for Glenn Mitchell to sell wine and malt beverages at Rose32 Bread, 412 Main St., Gilbertville. In his application, Mitchell explained that Rose32 Bread had transitioned from a bakery/café to a food to-go establishment and he wished to sell wine and malt

beverages to-go as well. Board of Selectmen chairman Kenan Young said that if having this license helps their business right now, he is all for it. The board approved the application unanimously by roll call vote.

License renewals

The board approved the renewal of a 2021 Club License for South Barre Rod & Gun Club, 2626 Barre Rd., Hardwick and a 2021 Farmer Series Pouring

Permit for Lost Towns Brewing Co., 483 Main St., Gilbertville. The Alcoholic Beverages Control Commission approved the renewal of both licenses, even though the applicants had missed the renewal deadline.

GIS Services agreement

The Board of Assessors submitted a proposed agreement between the town and CAI

Please see **HARDWICK**, page 4



Turley Publications staff photo by Paula Ouimette

WARE – The recent snowstorms, including Tuesday's, have made the Ware Gilbertville covered bridge, into a beautiful, traditional New England scene. This is heading into the bridge from the Ware side and Bridge Street in Gilbertville can be seen leading away in the background.

Inside this edition:

| | |
|------------------|----|
| Viewpoints..... | 4 |
| Sports..... | 7 |
| Police/Fire..... | 9 |
| Obituaries..... | 10 |
| Classifieds..... | 11 |

Happy Valentine's Day



RELIGION

Jeanne Hanson honored

Page 3



BUSINESS

NBSB honors nine workers

Page 5



SPORTS

Ware girls foughthard

Page 7

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OBITUARY POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

One is a free, brief **Death Notice** listing the name of deceased, date of death and funeral date and place.

The other is a **Paid Obituary**, costing \$100, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice and may include a photograph.

Death Notices & Paid Obituaries should be submitted through a funeral home to: obits@turley.com.

Exceptions will be made only when the family provides a death certificate and must be pre-paid.

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Ware Junior Senior High School second quarter honor roll

WARE – Ware Junior Senior High School released its second quarter high honors and honor roll.

HIGH HONORS

Seventh grade

Autumn Beauregard, Ava Dunn, Brady Guimond, Emily Clark, Jack Gaudreau, Janasia Roman, Julio Ventura, Kaleb Kanozek, Maia Lamothe, Olivia DiRienzo, Sophia Rheame and Zachary Bera.

Eighth grade

Chelsea Foley, Evelyn Shilosky, Gavin Sawabi, Genna Saletnik, Kenyce Crump, Kyla Campbell, Lillian Knight, Michael Devlin, Nathan Luxon, Owen McKeever, Philip Orszulak, Samantha Lowe, Taylor Janson and Timothy Russell.

Ninth grade

Ariel Cummings, Emily Chagnon, Gavin Kanozek, Jack McKeever, Kyle Safford, Lillyan Wabnig, Mackenzie Peterson, Mason Boronski, Mia DiRienzo, Noah Fales, Nyasha Heredia, Octavio Cotaj and Tyler Bonilla.

10th grade

Aislin McClure, Callie Orszulak, Camren McCormick, Christopher Vadnais, Elise Towne, Elle Patrissi, Ethan Flamand, John Auchter, Liliana Montalban, Maegan Boucher, Mason Harper, Natalie Silverio, Rachel Desjardins and Tony He.

11th grade

Aliah Crump, Andrew Soltys, Anthony DeSantis, Brooke Belanger Camden Balicki Cody St. Cyr Hannah Shangochian Liam Corder and Nathalie Cruz.

12th grade

Aiden Patrissi, Alexander Cabrera, Audrey LaValley, Chelsea Orszulak, Chenille Brown, Dominic Velazquez, Elisha Crump, Hailey Hernandez, Jack Tweedie, Jacqueline Dugay, John Soltys, Lexie Orszulak, Luke Harmon, Myles McGrail, Norah Ayers, Olivia Vadnais, Ryan Donnelly, Sean Moriarty, Seraya Daukewich Shawn Santiago, Shelby Schilling, Sydney DiMarzio and Vincent Chiaravalle.

HONORS

Seventh grade

Matthew Ashmore, Ryder Cahalan, Brandon Charron, Isabella Cotaj, Adin DeCarlo, Tracy Desruisseaux, Robert Dumas, Tyler Figueroa, Hayssa Freitas, Kyle Kaczuwka, Brodie Koczur, Alex Orszulak, Victoria Perry, Daniel Ramirez, Parker Rasys, Destiny Routhier, Anthony Skowronski, Madisyn Slaterry, Allison Sprankle, Paizlea St. Pierre, Maeve Stevens and Ryan Volz-Benoit.

Eighth grade

Adrianna Andrejack, Nevaeh Apraham, Donald Charron, Dylan Cummings, Joshua Dulak, Alexia

Feliciano, Tory Finocchio, Michael Fountain, Nathan Harmon, Jacob Jalbert, Hannah Lang, Logan Mascroft, Abigale McQuaid, Olivia Owsiak and Brody Paul.

Ninth grade

Zoei Bain, Nicholas Bousquet, Remy Cahalan, Kaley Campbell, Mathew Desrosiers, Kyle Gordon, Majka Lagimoniere, Emily McGrail, Jillian Musnicki, Gabrielle Savoy and Dylan Sutkaitis.

10th grade

Brenna Chesley, Angelina Cote, Riley Dulak, Phillip Fox, Abigail Gaudreau, Mackenzie Kern, Sophia LaGrant, Brogan O'Keefe, Brianna Palladino, Logan Savoy, Amanda Schilling, Kenzie Toelken, Camryn Wallace and Owen Welsh.

11th grade

Logan Bernier, Andrew Bonnayer, Quintin Davis, Matthew Foran, Nicholas Gambino, Haley Guimond, Megan Jasmin, Lillian Jeffery, Jeremy Johnson, Erin Malin, Skylée McQuaid, Emma Orszulak, Emma Orszulak, Tyler Orszulak, Michael Polak, Caroline Riethle, Gavin Rohan and Serri Wedhoff.


12th grade

Destinee Anadon, Amelia Bonnayer, Skyla Buck, Janisse Castro, Caitlin Hess, Lilly Kibbe, Arielis Pagan, Morgan Saletnik, Dillon Slaterry, Anaïs Stokosa, Joshua Sullivan and Aidyn Welsh.

Are You Old News?

Each week the Ware River News digs into its submitted photo archives and selects a people photo to publish. We need your help to help identify those pictured.

Email your answers by Monday at noon to ekennedy@turley.com.



Deborah Deschamps identified last week's photo as she was in it along with Sandy Fritz, Carol Zins and Linda Tomassi. They were performing "Nunsense Jamboree" at the Cultural Center at Eagle Hill School in Hardwick. It was "one of the most fun things I've ever done in my life," she said.

Anyone who can identify who is in this week's photo should send the answer to, along with their full name, to ekennedy@turley.com.

QUABOAG from page 1

While the change is estimated to save \$309,366, the first year the district must give back 25% of the savings to the staff covered by the insurance, making the total savings to the district about \$203,281. The approximately 167 staff members will share about \$106,084, which will be given to them through a premium holiday, checks or some other way.

The next step is for the new plan to be sent to a committee made up of staff and district officials, which will negotiate how it will be returned to them, according to Jill Gallant-Shaw, an insurance consultant from Cook & Co. Insurance Services, of Marshfield. The district hired the consultancy on Sept. 28 of last year to help them figure out what their options were in finding more affordable health insurance for staff. Gallant-Shaw also estimated employees would save about \$600 or so a year in reduced premiums.

Several weeks ago, the School Committee voted to accept state regulations that remove health insurance changes from union negotiations, which allowed the change process to begin.

The estimated cost of the new insurance will be \$3.09 million, with the district paying \$2.25 million and the employees paying \$837,752.

The cost of the current insurance, with the 3.37% increase for the new year, would be \$3.51 million, with the district paying \$2.56 million and the employees paying \$952,724.

Budget discussion

The Budget SubCommittee started budget discussions for fiscal

2022, with Student Support Services Director Robert Bergeron proposing to create two programs: one for an applied behavior analysis program focused on autistic spectrum students, and a second for elementary-aged students with emotional/behavioral disorders. He said there are enough children within the district to have eight students in each program.

He said the cost for an EBD therapeutic program for the year would be \$90,000 for a full-time teacher and a counselor, and the cost for an autism spectrum program would be \$130,000 for a teacher and paraprofessionals.

"We needed much more support behavioral support at the elementary level," he said of this year. Parents have complained about students disrupting classes for other students, the students have been dangerous to staff and to themselves, and have bolted from the school on occasion, he said. The stress has also caused some staff to take partial leave during the year, he said. Four such students have been placed out-of-district this year, but Bergeron said it is costly to do so when that money could be used to create in-district programs.

"I want Warren and West Brookfield students to be able to attend their local public schools," he said.

He also said there were some district staff who might be looking for a teaching position, but they would look outside the district as well. "The hiring has to be done very carefully," he said. "There is a lot of responsibility in setting up such a program in the first year and running it."

Quaboag Regional Middle High School Principal Steven Duff also went over that school's budget needs for fiscal 2022. he explained a number of increases in his budget line items, such as a \$10,000 increase for new Spanish textbooks, which the school has not had for 15 years, \$600 for lumber for the woodshop and \$300 for a sound board software application so students can play their parts online. He also asked for \$15,935 for middle school sports for coaches and supplies.

He also said he had two larger "asks," one being \$24,000 to pay the nursing instructor for the school's new Certified Nursing Assistant program and expand it to a second class. This year's class was funded through an earmark in a state bill, which local legislators made sure passed, but probably can't be repeated this coming year, he said.

He also asked for \$32,000 for a full-time social worker at the school.

The budget process will continue over the coming weeks before a public hearing on the budget is scheduled.

Cornerstone Bank offers student scholarships

SOUTHBIDGE – Cornerstone Bank, a community bank with 12 locations throughout central Massachusetts, will be awarding sixteen \$2,000 scholarships to students in the area it serves. Cornerstone Bank is hoping to help 2021 high school graduates throughout their community pursue higher education and foster advancement in the fields of business and finance. The sixteen scholarships will be awarded to the students who best demonstrate achievement in academics, extra-curricular activities and community involvement.

"Making sure the future leaders of America get a great education is so important to us at Cornerstone Bank," said CEO Todd Tallman. "We are excited to be able to help students achieve their dreams every year to go into the business or finance industries. Access to a

good education can be difficult for many students, especially with how difficult this past year has been, so we hope the help we are able to provide to this group of graduates helps them to reach their goals."

To apply for a scholarship, the student must:

Be a 2021 high school graduate
Reside within 10 miles of a Cornerstone Bank branch or office

Anticipate being a full-time student at an accredited, degree-granting institution of higher education

Anticipate studying in a business or financial field

Demonstrate achievement and high standards in academics, extra-curricular activities and community involvement

Submit an official transcript and GPA from their guidance office

In addition, the student must choose one of the following prompts and submit a one-page

typed essay:

"Are there any challenges you have had to overcome in your high school career?" or "What are your goals for the future, and how will this scholarship assist you in meeting them?"

Applications must be submitted or postmarked to Cornerstone Bank by April 5. Please send all applications to scholarships@cornerstonebank.com, or mail to Cornerstone Bank Scholarship Committee: P.O. Box 370, Southbridge, MA 01550. Selected recipients will be announced by the week of May 24. Scholarship funds will be disbursed to the student after successful completion of the first semester, and upon presentation of an official copy of the first semester transcript and second semester bill. For more information, and to download the application form, please visit cornerstonebank.com/scholarships/.

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53 54 55

56 57 58 59

CLUES ACROSS

1. Composed

5. Lesotho currency

9. Ethnic group associated with Hungarians

11. Gains knowledge of

13. Gradual destruction

15. Purchase

16. Pharaoh of lower Egypt

17. Where you're going

19. The 6th letter of the Greek alphabet

21. Fishing net

22. Midway between south and southeast

23. A way to sort

25. C C C

26. Popular sports podcast (abbr.)

27. Discount

29. Consumes tobacco

31. A way to run

33. Popular musical awards show

34. Pertains to the male sexual organ

36. Supplements with difficulty

38. Green veggie

39. Deep-bodied freshwater fish

41. Holy fire

43. Usually has a lid

44. Being of use or service

46. Have a yen for

48. Unknowingness

52. Dry white wine drink

53. Unwinds

54. Traveling by sea

56. Outdoor entertaining areas

57. Stringed instruments

58. Redgrave, actress

CLUES DOWN

1. Progressive decay of a bone or tooth

2. Burrowing rodents

3. French/Belgian river

4. A professional cleaner

5. A Russian river

6. Kiln

7. True statements

8. Most private

9. French city

10. Masses of fish eggs

11. Apart from others

12. Monetary unit of Samoa

14. Nanosecond

15. Film

18. Men's fashion accessories

20. Flowering shrub

24. North Carolina university

26. Former monetary unit of Spain

28. Foodies

30. New Zealand parrot

32. Makes very happy

34. A payment required for not fulfilling a contract

35. Emerald Isle

37. The act of terminating someone's employment

38. Gland in some mammals

40. Commoner

42. Large animals

43. Belch

45. Employee stock ownership plan

47. Work units

49. Wagon


50. Nerve fiber

51. Proclaimed

55. Japanese delicacy

Share Some GOOD NEWS!

Birth Announcements



Welcome, Hayley Ryan!
• Born April 22, 2019
• 9 lbs., 22 inches
Proud Parents
Lydia & Mike Ryan

Place your **FREE** Announcement in the Ware River News.

Photos Encouraged

To submit your announcement complete this form and send to **Ware River News, 80 Main St., Ware, MA 01082**
Or email: ekennedy@turley.com

Baby's First Name: _____

Parents (names & hometown): _____

Siblings (names & hometown): _____

Maternal Grandparents (names & hometown): _____

Paternal Grandparents (names & hometown): _____

Birthdate: _____ Additional info: _____

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ACCURACY WATCH

The Ware River News will gladly correct factual errors that appear in this paper. Corrections or clarifications will always appear on Page 3. To request a correction, send information to ekennedy@turley.com, or call 967-3505. Corrections may also be requested in writing at: Ware River News, Attn: Editor, 80 Main St., Ware, MA 01082.



DEVIN HENRY TO PLAY SOCCER FOR AIC

WARE – Devin Henry, a Ware High School senior, has signed a letter of intent to play soccer at American International University in Springfield. They are a Division 2 soccer team.

Friends of Ware Town Hall planning garden tour

WARE – Friend of Ware Town Hall President Patricia Skutnik recently announced that their Annual Giving Campaign for 2020 was, once again, a success. “The town continues to be very supportive of our efforts,” she said. She stated that the Giving Campaign was the only fundraiser for the group last year. “Unfortunately, anything we wanted to plan was stopped short by COVID,” she said.

The group is currently in the process of planning a garden tour for early summer of this year as a fundraising event - pending any COVID-related restrictions. “Everything is very uncertain right now, but we feel that a garden tour is something we can consider,” she said. “As an outdoor event that people can attend at their own pace and use their own vehicles, it would be a “socially distant” possibility. A garden tour hasn’t been done in Ware for a very long time, this kind of event should be a nice, enjoyable afternoon for both participating gardeners and those attending.”

“This is the perfect opportunity to share your garden and love of gardening with others,” he said. “There is no requirement of the size of the garden – big or small, they are all beautiful.”

Anyone with a garden who would like to participate should please contact Patricia Skutnik, 413-967-3030, Linda Kenyon, 413-967-6771, or Jane Desjardins, 413-967-4431.

Great Backyard Bird Count, Feb. 12 to 15

REGION – The Audubon Society and Cornell Lab of Ornithology will hold the Great Backyard Bird Count Feb. 12 through Feb. 15. The Great Backyard Bird Count is a free, fun, and easy event that engages bird watchers of all ages in counting birds to create a real-time snapshot of bird populations. Participants are asked to count birds for as little as 15 minutes or as long as they wish on one or more days of the four-day event and report their sightings online at birdcount.org. Anyone can take part in the Great Backyard Bird Count, from beginning bird watchers to experts and they can participate from their backyard or with a Ware River Nature Club group exploring a defined area with a team traveling in separate vehicles. Ware River Nature Club will announce plans for this event soon.

Great Falls Discovery Center presents zoom owl program

Friends of Great Falls Discovery Center present “Owls of New England” by Peter Christoph Peter. Christoph delivers stunning photographs of his favorite owls combined with stories, which entertain, educate and inspire. Participants will learn the secrets he uses to find and photograph owls in their natural habitat. Christoph is a well-known wildlife advocate, naturalist and award-winning wildlife photographer, who seeks to raise awareness of the need to conserve bird habitat. The virtual presentation via Zoom will be Thursday, Feb. 18, at 7 p.m. People may email friendsofgrfdc@gmail.com for link to join. More information, they may call 413-863-3221 or visit greatfallsdiscoverycenter.org. The presentation is free and all are welcome. This program is supported by a grant from the Montague Cultural Council, a local agency, which is supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency.

Hardwick COVID-19 vaccinations set for Feb. 13

Registration is necessary, details available soon

HARDWICK – Massachusetts is currently in Phase 2, Step 1, of COVID-19 vaccinations and supplies are limited.

Those who are 75 or older, are eligible for a vaccine that will be given on Feb. 13, at the Hardwick Elementary School. Details and registration information will be available as soon as possible.

Below is a list of current sites where you can make an appointment to receive a vaccine for those over 75. Click on the links to get all the current information available and if possible to schedule your appointment online. Those receiving vaccinations will also need to fill out

and bring a state form with them to their appointment, which can be found at <https://www.townofhardwick.com/PDF/COVID-19VaccinationAttestationForm.pdf>. The form is valid for anyone over the age of 75 in Phase 2. Other forms may be available for those younger at a later date.

Due to high demand and constrained vaccine supply, COVID-19 vaccination appointments are limited. More appointments will be available based on supply from the federal government. Appointments will be added on a rolling basis. In case of closures due to winter weather, vaccination locations will reach out to individuals with appointments to reschedule. Those who cannot safely get to their appointment, can reschedule. Reach out to the location

where receiving the vaccination with specific questions.

Places to get vaccinated for those 75 and older:

Eastfield Mall, Springfield (currently all slots are filled)

Gardner: Medical Arts Building, 250 Green St, Suite 200, Gardner, MA 01440

Appointments available Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday

Phone for appointment (978) 669-0199

Gardner Walgreens, 232 Main St, Gardner.

Holden Walgreens, 1145 Main St, Holden.

Holyoke: Baystate Health, 361 Whitney Ave. in Holyoke.

Leominster: Hannaford, 118

Lancaster St., Leominster, phone for appointment (978) 840-2737

Rutland Free Public Library, 280 Main Street, Rutland (Appointments not yet available)

Southbridge Community Center/Harrington Hospital, 153 Chestnut St, Southbridge, appointments available Monday through Friday.

Worcester: Central Mass Allergy and Asthma Care, 425 Lake Avenue North, Suite 201, Worcester.

Appointments available Monday through Thursday.

To schedule an appointment send an email to COVID@centralmassallergy.com, providing only your first name, phone number, and preferred location for vaccination (Pittsfield or Worcester).



Turley Publications Submitted Photo
Jeanne Hanson, of Gilbertville, was recently honored for her service to the church and surrounding communities.

Tri-Parish Community Church honors Jeanne Hanson

NEW BRAintree — Despite the threat of another nasty snowstorm on Sunday, Feb. 7, an enthusiastic crowd of worshippers met at the Tri-Parish Community Church in the New Braintree Congregational Church. Guest Pastor, Rev. Kathleen Fitzgibbons, gave a message based on Exodus 33:7, with a special story for the children. Beautiful music was provided by pianist Holly Bartelmann.

Following the church service, the annual business meeting accomplished a lot of work for the coming year. Thanks to the generosity of many donors to the Tri-Parish, the new year is getting off on the right foot and lots of enthusiasm was expressed for the 2021 year.

At the conclusion of the business meeting, Jeanne Hanson, of Gilbertville, was honored for her many decades of service to the Hardwick Calvinistic Congregational Church, the Tri-Parish Community Church and her contributions to the local communities.

The Sunday, Feb. 14 (Valentine’s Day) service at 10 a.m. in the New Braintree Congregational Church will be led by Jennifer Pollard. And, Rev. Kathleen Fitzgibbons will be back with us on Sunday, Feb. 21 – same time, same place, Deacon Marguerite Crevier will assist Pastor Fitzgibbons. All are welcome, and membership is definitely not required, with social distancing and masks.

Ware Boy Scout Troop 281 bottle and can drive

WARE – Boy Scout Troop 281 will hold a bottle and can drive on Sat., Feb. 11, from 9 a.m. to noon, at Edgar Machine, located next to the car wash on West Street.

All glass must be in boxes for safety reasons. In case of snow that morning, the drive will be cancelled. If the sign is not up that morning and there is no one present, please do not leave any donations.

The troop thanks everyone for their support.

Any questions, contact Scoutmaster Dan Flynn at 413-297-5886 or scoutdad281@charter.net.

HARDWICK from page 1

Technologies for computer mapping. This town renews this agreement every year as the service provides accurate GIS map layers, and also provides information for the MassGIS statewide address database used in the NextGen911 system. The cost to the town is \$1,750 annually. The board approved the acceptance of this agreement as recommended by the Board of Assessors.

Land donation

The board voted to accept the quitclaim deed of land adjacent to the Upper Cemetery on Petersham Road for the Cemetery Commission in the amount of \$1. The parcel of land transferred by the heirs of Gordon McMillan contains 34,752 square feet, which will be used to expand the cemetery.

EMS updates

Board of Selectmen member Julie Quink said that she and Town Administrator Theresa Cofske were both emailed about attending a Ware meeting to discuss EMS. Quink said the board still needs to address West Brookfield Rescue Squad’s offer. Young said that with Baystate Mary Lane Hospital closing in June, they should review with West Brookfield or Ware and see if their positions on money and services have changed, given this new development. Quink said she would respond to Ware and arrange to meet with them in March. In the meantime, Quink will reach out to both West Brookfield and Barre, and conference with both of them.

USDA update

Cofske said she had hoped to provide a full report on the USDA grant for the sewer project, but a new informational guideline release was just released. The financial team, RCAP Solutions and town counsel will have to “iron out those kinks.” Cofske said

there have been changes to the sewer line coming down 32A as well as geotechnical borings taking place.

Cofske said she has spent countless hours registering residents 75 and older on the online portal for this weekend’s COVID-19 vaccination clinic. She apologized for not having a complete update on the USDA grant, but said that the clinic took priority because “health and safety come first.” Cofske said once she has more information about the USDA grant she will circulate it.

Paige Memorial Library building

Quink asked Cofske if she had made any progress in determining the town’s responsibility, along with the Board of Trustees, for the Paige Memorial Library building and its repairs. Cofske said did not have time to research the matter or contact town counsel due planning the vaccination clinic. Cofske said most of her time has been spent assisting the Board of Health register vaccine recipients. Cofske said that she is spread out very thin and exhausted. She asked if they were going to discuss her performance or responsibilities, she would prefer not to do it at the end of a public meeting, but rather through a phone call offline. Quink said that she would be happy to call Cofske later in the week to discuss ways to help.

Quink asked if there was any way the town could hire either an assistant for the Board of Health or for Cofske herself. Board of Selectmen member Kelly Kemp said her son is in need of community service hours for school and would be willing to assist Cofske in taking meeting minutes of recorded meetings. Quink said that her daughter would be willing to do the same.

Cofske told Quink she could contact Town Counsel David Jenkins to find out about the library building. Cofske also recommended Quink research the matter with the Massachusetts Board of Libraries and pull any files pertaining to the Paige Memorial Library from Town Clerk Ryan J. Witkos.

Nomination papers available for Warren positions

WARREN – Warren Town Clerk Nancy J. Lowell has announced that nomination papers are available on Monday, Feb. 1, for the upcoming Town Election to be held on Tuesday, May 4. There papers must be filed with the Board of Registrars in the Town Clerk’s office, for certification on or before Tuesday, March 16, at 5 p.m. Final day to withdraw as a candidate is Thursday, April 1, at 5 p.m.

Appearing on the ballot will be the following:

One, three-year assessor seat; one three-year and one two-year Cemetery Commissioner position; one three-year Board of Health seat; a five-year Housing Authority term; three-year term as a Park Commissioner; five-year Planning Board seat; one three-year Selectman term; a three-year Sewer

Commissioner term and three-year Tree Warden position.

The Quaboag Regional School District positions will also be incorporated on the Town Ballot. Two members from the town of Warren for three-year terms and two members from the town of West Brookfield for three year terms. There is also a one-year term for Warren members.

These nomination papers are available on Wednesday, Feb. 3, at the front office of the Quaboag Regional Middle High School at 284 Old West Brookfield Road in Warren. Deadline for returning these papers is Friday, March 19, by 4 p.m.

Last day to register to vote before the Town Election is Wednesday, April 14, from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m., at the Town Clerk’s office in the Shepard Municipal Building on High Street.

NAMI offers free peer-to-peer program

AGAWAM – NAMI Peer-to-Peer is a free eight-week, recovery-focused educational program for adults who wish to establish and maintain their wellness. Great value is placed on the individual experiences of each person in the class, participants are empowered and invited to share their own stories and the coping tools that have worked for them.

Participants can create their own vision statement, SMART goals, recovery workbook, support networks, awareness grid and crisis plan.

Peer-to-peer programs are transforming and give participants the tools for self-discovery, self-care, finding community, making decisions and moving forward, making friends,

building healthy relationships, setting goals, dimensions of wellness, directing care, relapse prevention, gaining confidence, relaxation, empowerment, self-acceptance and understanding and I statements.

It starts on Thursday Feb. 25, from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., for eight weeks, ending on April 15. Contact information@namiwm.org or go to namiwm.org/support to register.

NAMI is the National Alliance on Mental Illness, the nation’s largest grassroots mental health organization. NAMI provides advocacy, education, support and public awareness so that all individuals and families affected by mental illness can build better lives.



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EDITORIAL

Combatting cabin fever inside and out

Winters in New England can seem very long in the best of years, but this past fall and now as we find ourselves deep into winter this February, it may seem even longer than normal as COVID-19 remains with us after almost a year.

Punxsutawney Phil, the ever-popular, Pennsylvania groundhog removed from his burrow each year to prognosticate about how many more weeks of winter we'll see before spring makes its anxiously-awaited appearance, made his annual visit above ground on Feb. 2. Unfortunately, he saw his shadow and determined there will be six weeks more of winter.

Luckily, Massachusetts' "famous" groundhog, Ms. G, the official state groundhog of our state also made her annual appearance on Feb. 2. She did not see her shadow and so predicted an early spring. How early we don't yet know. She lives at the Massachusetts Audubon education center, Drumlin Farm, in Lincoln.

It remains to be seen if either forecast is accurate. In the Holyoke area, at least, skunks are already on the move again, a sure sign spring is headed our way. Of course the Paper City is usually a little warmer than many other Western Mass locations, so who knows?

Whether Phil's or Mrs. G's forecasting proves true, we are all getting at least a touch of cabin fever, and there's certainly stronger feelings of restlessness and boredom running through us all and our friends and family.

So what to do? Considering our very recent snow, one can choose to educate oneself and go hiking, but if you're new to the activity make sure you learn about the right clothing to wear based on temperatures and planned activities.

If you haven't investigated doing so before cross-country skiing and snowshoeing are possible now that we have plenty of the white stuff.

And if you've never tried ice fishing and you're willing to take a ride, you can head to Russell, where the Woronoco Heights Outdoor Adventures' ice fishing staff, with Craig Mannix, will be on hand to help you. With over 30 years of ice fishing experience, Mannix and his team will be available to show even the most novice fisherman how to catch the big ones under the ice. For those folks without the proper ice fishing equipment, plenty of "pop-ups" and other tools necessary to successfully find fish will be available for use out on the frozen lake.

While at Woronoco Heights on Feb. 20, it's also possible to try blacksmithing with the help of a Forged in Fire contestant as well as snowshoeing and/or mountain biking, although COVID-19 safety restrictions require all to bring their own bike helmets. There will also be orienteering, escape challenges and scavenger hunt bingo as well as other activities. If Mother Nature cooperates with the right weather, there may be trips out to the Top O' The Hill Maple "sugar shack" where visitors are rewarded for their efforts with samples of their sweet, freshly boiled, maple syrup.

The events go on from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and it's \$10 a piece for everyone regardless of age.

But if the cold weather, snow and ice isn't your or your family's thing, there are plenty of indoor activities on Zoom or other video conferencing applications.

Area groups and libraries have worked hard to keep us all entertained – and with the ubiquity of Zoom, it's possible to enjoy programs you might not have considered participating in before from the comfort of your own living room.

Dreaming of gardening in the spring? The East Quabbin Land Trust, will host a book discussion on Feb. 25, from 7 to 8:30 p.m., on "Nature's Best Hope: A New Approach to Conversation That Starts in Your Yard," by Douglas Tallamy, a professor of entomology at the University of Delaware. He is also the author of "Bringing Nature Home." He will discuss how homeowners can turn their yards into conservation corridors that provide wildlife habitats.

It's free and people should email Jess Cusworth at the trust at jcusworth@eqlt.org if they are interested, and she will send you the Zoom link.

The trust, the Trustees of the Reservation and Massachusetts Audubon all have outdoor and indoor activities, and libraries across the state have all kinds of online programs to enjoy, so take a walk through the World Wide Web and see what you can find to distract yourself until spring.

Baby it's cold outside (especially at 4,003 feet)!

By Julie Midura
Correspondent

Last week, Tom and I braced ourselves as we stepped out of our car at Rocky Branch Trailhead to hike to the summit of 4,003-foot Mt. Isolation. The temperature on our car thermometer read negative 2 degrees!

We strapped on our snowshoes as fast as we could, slung our heavy winter backpacks over our shoulders, grabbed our trekking poles, and headed up the trail as fast as our legs could carry us. We had just one thing in mind — move quickly in an attempt to generate heat.

When Tom and I first learned about the list of 48 4,000-foot mountains in New Hampshire, we envisioned hiking on balmy summer days under bright sunny skies while our boots struck the dirt and rock-strewn path beneath our feet. But somewhere along the way, we fell in love with hiking so much — or maybe we just lost all sense of self-preservation — that we decided to continue climbing the mountains right through winter. Although we did extensive research beforehand on how to be safe while hiking up such big mountains on frigid winter days, much of what we learned came through trial and error.

One of the first lessons we learned was to dress in layers. A single heavy winter jacket is a poor choice for winter hiking. Dressing in layers gives you the ability to regulate your body temperature in order to avoid becoming too hot or too cold for extended periods of time. Multiple layers allow you to add and remove clothing as needed.

The key to layering in deep cold is to understand that air temperature, body temperature and exertion level all work together to determine how cold you will feel. You should remove as many layers as necessary on the ascent to minimize perspiring.

Zero degrees can feel brutally cold or downright balmy depending on how you're dressed and how much you are exerting yourself. I have been very comfortable in a single, long-sleeve base layer while hiking up a steep incline, while, conversely, I have felt incredibly cold wearing four layers of clothing while standing still on a summit.

A good layering system includes one or two base layers made of wicking fabrics such as polyester, silk or wool; an insulating mid-layer, such as fleece or down; and a wind/waterproof outer layer that not only sheds moisture, but also allows water vapor to escape. Look for garments that have multiple venting options so that you can dump heat as your heart rate goes up during exertion. For most hikers, pit zips are nonnegotiable.

Although options abound for each of the layers, one thing remains constant: avoid cotton at all costs. As most experienced hikers know, "cotton kills."

No, that isn't a typo. Or hyperbole. Those comfortable cotton T-shirts that I love to wear



The view of Mt. Washington, as seen from Mt Isolation.



Tom and Julie Midura celebrating on Mt. Isolation – their 36th mountain of the NH48.

in summer could actually be the reason for my demise in winter. Let me explain.

Clothing keeps you warm by trapping warm air near your skin. When cotton gets wet, either from rain, snow or perspiration, it will no longer insulate you because the air pockets in the fabric absorb water like a sponge. Since cotton retains moisture and takes forever to dry, it pulls heat away from your body. Add cold temperatures to the equation and you are at a high risk of suffering from hypothermia.

When Tom and I first started hiking in winter, we heard the mantra, "Be Bold... Start Cold." That means when you arrive at the trailhead and step out of your car, you should feel quite chilled. Within 10 to 15 minutes of hiking, you will generate enough heat to feel warm and comfortable.

Back then, I was fully aware of that recommendation, but I chose to ignore it, due mostly from the cold, hard fact that I despise being cold. When I stepped out of the warm car and into the frigid mountain air at the trailhead, I wanted an arsenal of clothing covering every inch of my body. No way was I taking off any layers! So I loosened the straps on my backpack to accommodate all of the layers that I was wearing and headed up the trail looking like Ralph's little brother in "A Christmas Story."

And of course, 15 minutes later, I felt like a was walking in a sauna. So off came the backpack and off came the layers. It took many, many... dare I say many... hikes before I finally learned my lesson. Now, I suck it up and start cold.

I do, however, carry in my pack enough layers for a day on Everest. My typical winter layering system consists of a long sleeve merino wool quarter-zip top, a synthetic vest, a mid-weight fleece jacket, a goose down hooded puffy, and a hard shell (keep in mind that you may need to buy a size up for the outermost layer, since it will need to accommodate all of the layers underneath).

Lower layers and headgear

The layers for my lower half include fleece leggings, a thermal hiking skirt, waterproof pants, merino wool knee socks, gaiters, and 400-gram insulated boots.

For my head, I usually wear a Buff on the ascent and switch to a hat on the summit. Since my hands are always cold, I carry liner

Please see **HIKE**, page 5

Fresh flower care and flowers for free

With St. Valentine's Day coming up this Sunday, my thoughts turn to flowers and chocolate. Flowers because I am who I am, and chocolate, because I am surely hoping hubby will provide ample quantities in a heart-shaped box! Anyway, back to the flowers..

Many folks will be graced with a bouquet of cut flowers in honor of this special holiday, and I have some tips up my sleeve to make sure you get longevity out of your gift. No matter how your flowers make it home, either in a sleeve or in a box, chances are they've been out of water for some time. Once stems start to seal up, water and nutrients won't be able to flow and their lifespan could be cut short. Therefore, the first thing you ought to do is recut them. Your goal is to have a clean cut, one that won't crush the flower's vascular system.

In fact, I've never understood advice that mentions smashing floral stems; don't do it! Use bypass clippers, or if you're comfortable, a sharp knife. Household scissors usually aren't sharp enough, since they are geared more for cutting paper or fabric. Most advice books recommend making your cut on a 45 degree angle to expose the most surface area possible to water. Another trick is to cut the flower stems under water—this process will prevent air bubbles from clogging the stems. I usually fill a clean sink or bucket, submerge the flower stems and cut 1 or 2" off the bottom. If you've ever had a rose with a bent head, that is an air bubble at work. Try re-cutting the stem under water and hopefully the bubble will be forced out.

As you move your flowers into a vase (make sure it's clean!), remove any leaves that you estimate will be under the water line. Waterlogged leaves will rot and make bacteria that can clog stems, shorten vase life and make quite a stench! Some flowers do better if most of their foliage is removed, the reason being that the leaves draw water away from the main stem, and therefore away from the flower head. I generally snip off all the leaves of lilac, and remove all but the uppermost leaves of hydrangeas and zinnias. Usually a small packet of floral preservative is included along with your flowers. Using this in your vase of water

will feed the blooms and encourage them to open to their fullest, vivid-color potential!

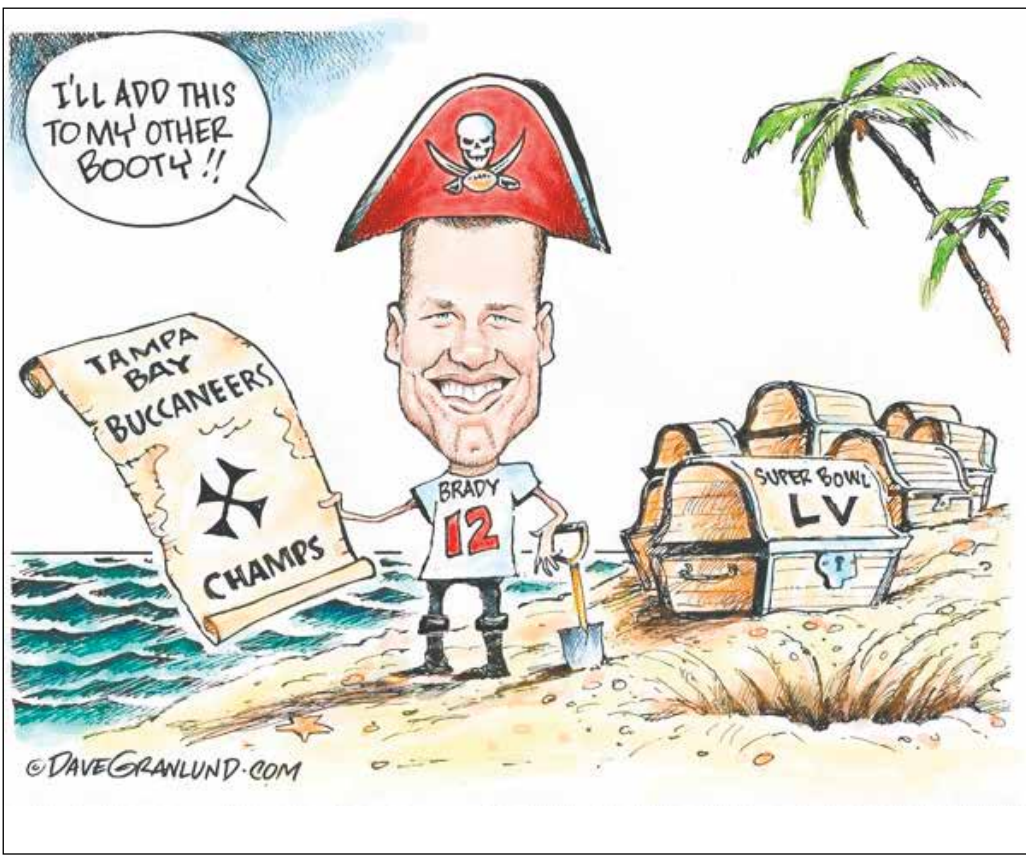
This year, Valentine's Day coincides with the start of February vacation. Why not snip some branches of your favorite spring shrubs for a neat experiment with the kids? Just think, when the bought flowers are long gone, you'll have some others waiting in the wings. The most common shrub to force in the vase is the forsythia; it can be done as early as late January or February, and right up until regular, outdoor bloom time.

Cut the branches on a day that temperatures are above freezing. The best for forcing are those that have many swollen buds. Bring them indoors and recut the stems just as you did for your cut flowers: under water and with a diagonal cut. The branches can then be put in a container or vase with a few inches of water

ON THE GARDEN



Roberta McQuaid



WARE RIVER NEWS

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Letter to the Editor
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Ware, MA 01082
or via email to:
ekennedy@turley.com

The deadline for
submissions is
Monday at noon.

2021Turley Election Policy

This newspaper will print free self-submitted statements of candidacy only four weeks or more out from the election. All candidates running in both contested and uncontested races are asked to submit their statements to the editor to include only biographical and campaign platform details. Total word count for statements is limited to between 300-500 words maximum. Please include a photo. We will not publish any statements of candidacy inside the four weeks from election threshold. To publish any other campaign publicity during the race, please contact our advertising representatives. We also do not allow personal attacks against other candidates or political parties in statements of candidacy, nor do we publish for free any information about key endorsements or political fundraisers.

Letters to the editor of no more than 250 words from supporters endorsing specific candidates or discussing campaign issues are limited to three total per author during the election season. No election letters will appear in the final edition before the election. We reserve the right to edit all statements of candidacy and letters to the editor to meet our guidelines.

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Annual Town Election set for April 12, nomination papers available

WARE – Nomination papers will be available for those individuals who wish to obtain them for the following positions that will appear on the ballot for the above-mentioned Annual Town Election, which will be held on Monday, April 12.

The seats open are two, three-year terms for selectman; one three-year term for moderator; two three-year School Committee terms; one, three-year term on the Board of Assessors; one, three-year term on the Board of Health; one, three-year term as Park Commissioner; one, one-year unexpired term as Park Commissioner; one, three-year term as Cemetery Commissioner; one, five-year set on the Planning Board; and one, five-year term on the Ware Housing Committee.

The last date to obtain and file nomination papers with the Board of Registrars is Monday, Feb. 22, at 5 p.m.

The last date to file nomination papers with the Town Clerk will be Monday March 8 at 5 p.m.

The last date to object to or withdraw nomination papers will be Wednesday March 10, at 5 p.m.

Any resident interested in running for any of the town offices will appear on the ballot should please contact the Town Clerk Nancy J. Talbot to make arrangements on obtaining nomination papers by calling 413-967-9648, ext. 177, Monday through Friday between the business hours of 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Due to COVID-19, the Town Hall currently remains closed to the public.

The current office holders will be notified that their terms are ending. They are: Selectmen, Alan Whitney and Keith Kruckas; moderator, Kathleen Coulombe; School Committee, Michael C. Foran and Julie A. Slattery; Board of Assessors, Devin M. Peterson; Board of Health, Michael F. Juda; Park Commissioner, Kimberly Swartz; Park Commissioner, John E. Carroll; Cemetery Commissioner, Craig R. Simmons; Planning Board, Richard A. Starodoj; and Ware Housing Authority, Jonathan R. Hogan.

The last date to register to vote will be Tuesday, March 23. A voter registration will take place by appointment on March 23 until 8 p.m.; however anyone who is not a registered voter can do so by registering to vote online at www.ma.gov or by mail-in voter registration. Forms for mail-in voter registration can be found at the U S Post Office on West Street.

Keep an Eye on What's
Happening
Locally

Father Piotr Calik with young people of the congregation.

FR. PIOTR from page 1

everybody has what they need.” He said he feels they have become one congregation, and are willing to attend Mass at either church as it fits their needs. “The know we need to be together,” he said.

“I feel like we are a hidden community that is made up of people who are very good to each other,” he said.

He attended SS. Cyril and Methodius Seminary in Krakow, Poland from 2007 to 2008, before attending SS. Cyril and Methodius Seminary in Michigan from 2008 to 2013. He was ordained a priest in the Diocese of Springfield in 2013 by then Springfield Bishop Timothy A. McDonnell.

He also serves on the College of Consultors and the Presbyteral Council. In addition, he was assigned to the World Youth Day Committee in 2016, the Vocation Advisory Team, New Pastors Program and the Commission for the Clergy. He is currently the dean of the Hampden-East Deanery.

“I know the congregation will miss him and I will miss him,” said Deacon Gilbert St. George-Sorel. “Father Piotr has been a pleasure to work with and he’s very dedicated.”

St. George-Sorel touched on Calik’s work in joining the two churches.

“It’s been a very difficult job,

Father Piotr Calik stands with a confirmation class.

but he’s done a great job,” he said. “It’s sad he’s leaving Ware, but we wish him the best. We’ll keep him in our prayers and hopefully, he’ll keep us in his prayers.”

Judging by comments on different Ware-related social media sites, St. George-Sorel is not alone in thinking he will miss Calik.

A number of people mentioned his leaving will be a great loss for the community, including saying it is a blow to Ware.

He said he will stay in Ware until the new priest physically arrives, which will likely be through Easter Sunday.

“They picked a great choice in Father Piotr,” said St. George-Sorel. “He’ll do a great job as vicar and he’ll be a real asset to the Diocese.”

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SPORTS



Olivia Vadnais prepares to pass on the run.



Audrey LaValley goes for the layup.



Aidyn Welsh takes a shot in traffic.

PALMER – After a longer layoff than expected, the Palmer High School girls basketball team finally took the court on Monday night. It was a close game, but the Panthers pulled out the win 45-42 against visiting Ware. Ware has a few games under its belt already, but was unable to generate as much offense Monday night.

Photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com



Lexie Orszulak makes a quick bounce pass.



Chelsea Orszulak is closely covered under the hoop

Football season vote reconsidered

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

REGION – The actual composition of the high school football season is back up in the air after the Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association voted to reconsider its decision on a format for the 2021-2022 season.

Just a few weeks after agreeing on a format that would be used this fall, the MIAA Board of Directors backtracked on the vote, voting overwhelming in favor in a special meeting last Thursday morning to reconsider its decision.

This fall is set to be the first under the new state-wide tournament format that was voted into effect in early 2020. Unfortunately, Western Massachusetts schools did not have the opportunity to have one final sectional tournament before the new tournament format takes effect.

The original vote was to have a nine-week season beginning Labor Day weekend and going to the first week of November. There would then be eight qualifying teams per Division to participate in a statewide tournament. There are currently scheduled to be eight divisions in high school football though their exact composition has not been determined. Most other high school sports will be divided into five divisions in order to level the competition throughout the state.

One other proposal presented a few weeks back was to have an eight-week qualifying campaign, much similar to the existing format. The only difference being the fact the playoffs will be a state tournament instead of a four-team sectional, followed by state semifinals. The state finals would still be scheduled to

Please see **VOTE**, page 8

Indoor football team signs players

WORCESTER — The Massachusetts Pirates have signed offensive lineman Jared Thomas for the 2021 season.

Thomas (6'3", 300 lbs.) last played college football at Northwestern University. He appeared in 51 total games during his four years on the field, including starting all 14 games at center during his junior and senior seasons. Thomas redshirted as a true freshman at Northwestern in 2015.

Some of Thomas' accomplishments at Northwestern include being named 2019 team captain and 2019 All-Big Ten Honorable Mention.

The Pirates have also signed offensive lineman Dwayne Wallace. Wallace last played in The Spring League in November 2020. He also played in XFL for the Los Angeles Wildcats in 2020.

Wallace has garnered professional football experience outside of the Pirates. After going undrafted in the 2019 NFL Draft, Wallace had brief stops in the NFL with the Pittsburgh Steelers and Chicago Bears. Wallace took part in rookie minicamps for both teams in May 2019.

Please see **INDOOR FOOTBALL**, page 8

Home sweet court: Quabbin streak continues

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

BARRE—Senior forward Julia Hamel couldn't recall the last time that Quabbin lost a home game. That's because it hadn't happened in two years.

The Panthers won their 14th consecutive home game by posting a 61-43 victory over the Narragansett Warriors, last Thursday night.

"It feels great to win another home game. I really cannot remember the last time that we lost a game in this gym," said Hamel, who became a member of the girls' varsity basketball team as a freshman. "It stinks that there isn't going to be a post-season tournament this year, but everyone is just thankful to be playing basketball."

Quabbin, who had a 5-1 overall record following last Thursday's home game, won their first four home games this winter. The Panthers posted a perfect 9-0 mark on their homecourt a year ago. They also defeated Quaboag in the final home game of the 2018-19 regular season. The last team to defeat Quabbin inside Panther Gym was St. Peter Marian by the final score of 39-33 on February 14, 2019.

Hamel, who scored 7 points and pulled down 10 rebounds in the home win against the Warriors, along with senior forward Kacie McCreadie (1 point)

are the only seniors listed on the Panthers varsity roster. The co-captains were slated to be honored on senior night, which was scheduled to take place versus Leominster on Monday.

"We're going to honor Julia and Kacie with a video on Monday night," said Quabbin head coach Evan Barringer. "They've put the team first this year, which is the type of leadership that I don't think can be taught. They're both very special players to me, especially being a first-year coach."

A total of four Quabbin players reached double digits in the first meeting of the season against Narragansett Regional (3-4), which is in Baldwinville.

The trio of junior center Ashley Leighton, junior guard Jordyn Gillon, and sophomore guard Olivia Rose scored 13 points apiece. Leighton nearly posted a double-double, as she finished the game with eight rebounds. The duo of Gillon and Rose combined to make six of the Panthers nine 3-point shots.

"We made a total of nine 3-pointers tonight, which is exceptional," Barringer said. "We shot the ball very well."

Freshman guard Meaghan Doyle, who also made a pair of 3-pointers, finished with a career-high 10 points.

"I've never seen a freshman play as well as Meaghan did in

Please see **QUABBIN**, page 8

Challenge Cup set to finally debut

REGION — After a one-year delay, The New England Late Model Challenge Cup (NELMCC) is finally debuting in 2021 — and it will be even bigger than originally planned. American-Canadian Tour (ACT) officials confirmed today that nine tracks have signed up for the first season of the series that will pit weekly Late Model racers from across the region in a summer-long battle for pride, glory, and some serious prize money.

The inaugural Challenge Cup was originally slated for the 2020 season before being pushed back a year due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The basic format remains the same, with registered drivers taking their 10 best eligible finishes at participating tracks towards the season-long point standings.

However, the scope of the program has grown tremendously during the one-year hiatus. Nine tracks from four New England states have signed up, nearly double the amount that were originally registered for 2020.

The increase in tracks also means an increase in the season-ending awards. A guaranteed minimum point fund of \$14,000 has been posted for the Challenge Cup. The \$100 registration fee for each driver will also be added to the point fund in full. For example, if 40 drivers sign up for the series, another \$4,000 would be added to the point fund for a total of \$18,000.

Should registration be on pace with the 2020 pre-pandemic numbers, the total point fund could exceed \$20,000. A minimum prize

of \$3,000 goes to the overall winner. At least the top-10 drivers in the final standings will receive payouts.

Several big contingency and raffle awards have been posted, adding even more value to the program for racer. A Port City Chassis by Crazy Horse Racing will be raffled off at season's end. To qualify for the chassis raffle, drivers must register by the deadline and attempt to qualify for at least 10 point-counting events.

ARBodies and Five Star Bodies are each awarding a \$500 product certificate. Drivers who finish in the overall top-10 and have declared they are running an AR or Five Star body will be eligible for these raffles.

Drivers who register by the

early-entry deadline of March 1 will also be entered into a Hoosier Tire raffle. Two randomly chosen entrants each receive two free ACT Late Model tires from Hoosier. ACT will also honor the tire awards of the 2020 pre-pandemic raffle winners if they register for this year's Challenge Cup.

"This program is a huge step forward for weekly Late Model racing in New England," ACT managing partner Cris Michaud said. "The Challenge Cup was one of the things we were most excited about in 2020 before the pandemic. Now, with nearly twice as many tracks on board plus some great contingency partners, it's going to be even bigger for teams and fans."

Please see **RACE**, page 8



Alan Ward is one racer who will be trying to compete in the Late Model Challenge Cup this year.

Submitted photo

Full slate of Mass Golf championships return this season

NORTON – Mass Golf is excited to announce the return of a full schedule for Championships and Women’s Championships during the 2021 season. While Mass Golf was able to conduct a majority of its events and qualifiers in 2020, this year’s slate will also include the return of events canceled last year due to COVID-19, such as the Massachusetts Open.

According to Kevin Eldridge, Mass Golf’s Director of Rules and Competitions, about 60 championship events, including 18-hole qualifying rounds, are

being scheduled, and they will take place at 63 different Mass Golf Member Clubs. In total, more than 4,600 registrations are expected. “This year’s lineup of championship events and qualifiers wouldn’t have been possible without the support and dedication of all our host clubs,” Eldridge said.

“As we enter into what we plan to be a full season of Mass Golf events, we remain committed to maintaining the level of care and attention put towards keeping our competitors, volunteers, host club personnel, and

staff safe,” said Jesse Menachem, Mass Golf Executive Director/CEO. “Statewide and nationally, golf was recognized as a safe recreational activity during times of great restriction and we are confident that we will keep this positive momentum surrounding the sport going into the 2021 season.”

Online registrations for 2021 Mass Golf events will begin in early March. Additional details surrounding the new registration platform and the registration open dates will be provided in the coming weeks.

Pioneers to host Pelham clinic

LUDLOW – Western United Pioneers FC is excited to offer a soccer clinic in Pelham, MA for players in the Massachusetts North Region. The clinic provides off-season training and skill development by WUP FC coaches. The second sessions available.

This program is offered to boys and girls born in 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, and 2014. The four-week program includes one practice per week for a total of \$65 per session. Sessions will consist of a max of 15 players per field (COVID regulation for the players’ safety).

SESSION 2: MONDAYS
2/22, 3/1, 3/8, and 3/15
Boys and Girls Born 2013 and

2014: Session is at 5 p.m.
Boys and Girls Born 2010, 2011, and 2012: Session is at 6 p.m.

The sessions will be held at Pelham Elementary School at 45 Amherst Road, Pelham, MA 01002.

Hampshire association seeking umpires

REGION – The Hampshire Franklin Baseball Umpire Association (HFBUA) is planning to conduct classes for the 2021 baseball season following all recommended COVID-19 protocols including the possibility of on-line instruction. The association covers umpiring of scholastic baseball for all of Hampshire

and Franklin county schools registered under MIAA and several other baseball leagues in the area. If you are interested in umpiring baseball or obtaining further information regarding the upcoming classes please contact Roger Booth - Secretary/Treasurer of the HFBUA via email at quilthunter@comcast.net.

VOTE from page 7

take place after Thanksgiving, and Thanksgiving holiday matchups could still be preserved.

One thing that would change are the consolation games that occurred among non-playoff teams. The consolation games were determined by a committee in the MIAA for Weeks 9 and 10 as a way to bridge the gap for teams between the eight-week qualifying season and Thanksgiving.

Now, the MIAA is not planning to specifically come up with matchups, but one area athletic director, Agawam’s David Stratton, said a local organization, like the PVIAC, could determine non-playoff games based on who is not involved in the tournament.

“If we did non-playoff games, it would have to be done on a local

level,” said Stratton.

Following the reconsideration vote, there was a motion for the nine-week season again, but it was defeated.

Now, the exact regular season format will have to wait until a future meeting as the meeting concluded without a new vote on how many weeks the regular season will be.

In Western Massachusetts, teams will still be playing in competitive conferences, which usually consist of five to seven teams. Depending on whether the regular season will be eight or nine weeks, teams would have to pick up independent games against non-conference teams.

Football teams will have an opportunity to play again in the Fall 2 season, set for next month. However, there will be no playoffs for the Fall 2 season.

QUABBIN from page 7

tonight’s game,” said Hamel, who assisted on two of Doyle’s baskets early in the second quarter after stealing the ball. “She’s a very talented basketball player.”

Doyle, who scored a total of 14 points in the first five games of the season, scored seven of her points during the second quarter, which helped the Panthers hold onto the lead.

“You can just see Meaghan’s confidence grow during the last week or so,” Barringer said. “There isn’t anything more enjoyable as a head coach then seeing one of your younger players perform like she did in tonight’s game.”

Quabbin was only leading by a point (25-24) late in the first half when Leighton, who scored eight first half points, hit a jumper from the left corner. Then a driving lay-up by Gillon pushed the Panthers lead to five points.

Following a jumper in the lane by junior forward Julie Davis, who paced the Warriors with a game-high 18 points, Hamel knocked down a 3-point shot from the left corner at the buzzer ending the first half.

“I’ve made a couple of buzzer-beaters in the past, but they weren’t 3-pointers,” Hamel said “It definitely gave me a lot more confidence entering the second half because I missed a lot of shots in the first half. Coach Barringer also gave us a motivating halftime speech.”

The Panthers put-together an impressive 14-2 run during the first four minutes of the third quarter.

“That was a huge 3-pointer by Julia to end the first half,” Barringer said. “Then we began the second half with a really nice run. We only had one turnover during the entire third quarter.”

With 5:55 remaining in the third quarter, back-to-back

3-pointers by Gillon gave the home team a commanding 39-26 advantage.

“Anytime we need a 3-pointer, Jordyn is normally the player to make it for us,” Barringer said. “Everyone on the team knows she’s capable of making that shot.”

Two minutes later, the Panthers were leading 46-28 following a Leighton put-back hoop, a Rose fast-break lay-up, and another 3-pointer by Gillon.

Quabbin entered the final eight minutes of the contest holding a 51-35 lead.

The Panthers scored only ten points during the fourth quarter, but they were able to keep the double-digit lead and celebrated another home victory.

Two days later, Leighton (17 points) and Hamel (16 points) combined for 33 points, which helped the Panthers sweep the season series against the Warriors with a 52-40 road win.



SEND US YOUR SPORTS PHOTOS

Have you taken photos at a local sports event and want to see them published in this paper? Email your image(s) with description to: **sports@turley.com**

The deadline for submissions for this sports section is the Monday before publication by noon.

To send in information, contact Sports Editor at 413-283-8393, send an e-mail to sports@turley.com or send it through the mail to: Turley Publications c/o Sports Editor 24 Water St. Palmer, MA 01069

RACE from page 7

“Weekly racers are the backbone of the sport, and it’s important to reward them for their efforts,” Michaud went on. “We’ve come up with a program that does so and which we think will boost car counts and action throughout the region.”

Four tracks from the original 2020 slate will return for the 2021 debut: Barre, VT’s Thunder Road Speedbowl; North Woodstock, NH’s White Mountain Motorsports Park; Connecticut’s Thompson Speedway Motorsports Park; and Massachusetts’ Seekonk Speedway.

Five other tracks have joined the Challenge Cup.

Stars could be aligning for rail project

By Michael Harrison
mharrison@turley.com

EAST LONGMEADOW — One day, two college buddies caught up while wrangling luggage from a plane in Gary, Indiana. Chances are, neither thought the vicissitudes of life would lead one of them to a place on the world’s stage before his 40th birthday.

The plane they unloaded carried the belongings of then-presidential candidate and first-term U.S. Senator Barack Obama and his campaign staff. Eric Lesser, a campaign aide who went on to serve in the White House as special assistant to David Axelrod, Obama’s chief advisor, had let his good friend “Pete,” a native of South Bend, Indiana, know he would be in the Hoosier state and maybe they could spend some time together.

Perhaps the two former Harvard students grabbed dinner or a beer later. Friends for life at that point, they still get together when they can. Or, Pete being Pete, he may have used all the free time he had that day helping his old pal unload that plane. Even if that bit of trivia is confined to the dustbin of history, it’s wholly inconsequential compared to how their lives would continue to intersect.

Lesser, a state senator representing the 1st Hampden and Hampshire District – including Ludlow, Wilbraham, Hampden, East Longmeadow, Longmeadow, Granby, Belchertown, and parts of Chicopee and Springfield – is no stranger to Pete’s new boss, President Joe Biden.

Pete – Pete Buttigieg, a.k.a. Mayor Pete – started to make his name as the second youngest mayor in South Bend history at age 29 in 2012, and later as a rival to Biden in the 2020 primaries. He now serves in Biden’s cabinet as Secretary of Transportation.

For Lesser, who’s passionate about the proposed East-West passenger rail line from Boston to Pittsfield with depots in Springfield and Palmer, it might not hurt to have friends in high places.

How they met? Taking a ‘brain break’

They spent only one year as schoolmates, though Lesser and Buttigieg probably would have become friends regardless of how they met. Both have an enduring intellectual curiosity, are service-minded, and can talk policy like others talk sports. Still, when they met, one was getting his feet wet in Cambridge while the other was preparing for post-grad life.

“I was a freshman and he was a senior at the time,” Lesser said. “I would describe him as a bit of a big man on campus. He was president of the Institute of Politics, which was kind of the youth political center at Harvard. But he didn’t carry himself that way. He is a pretty understated guy. He was sort of universally liked, well known, but not in a sort of outlandish or braggadocious way.”

In other words, kind of cool? “It was very much a kind of quiet charisma,” Lesser said.

When they met, Lesser found out the accomplished senior was humble enough to offer friendship to the newbies.

“And he had a reputation as being a really sincere and really brilliant person and very committed to his hometown even then,” Lesser said. “I remember actually the first time we met, we met up for something that was called ‘brain break,’ when they would put out snacks in the dining hall in the middle of the night, like around midnight. People would take breaks from studying or from the library and they would go to the dining hall to get these snacks.



Courtesy photo
Back in 2008, Harvard grads Pete Buttigieg and Eric Lesser pose for a photo outside then candidate Barack Obama’s campaign plane.

And I remember meeting up with him and I was just a kid from Longmeadow who found myself at Harvard, and we met up at the brain break and we chatted. It was clear pretty quickly that he was a really unique talent and a unique person.”

One of the first things they bonded over was embracing their roots.

“He was very committed to his hometown,” Lesser said.

Lesser, who strengthened his activist bones in high school fighting to reverse teacher layoffs, admired how Buttigieg looked for ways to leverage education and experience to help lift their communities.

“I was really drawn to that because that was really the story I identified with, so we became friendly and we kept in touch,” Lesser said. “He graduated, of course, and I was still in school, and whenever he was back in Cambridge or back on campus, we would try to meet up and we kept in touch.”

When Buttigieg lived in Chicago, Obama’s home base, Lesser and Buttigieg would spend time whenever the campaign made a weekly stop in the Windy City so then-candidate Obama could spend a weekend with his family.

“About once a week, we would end up back in Chicago, and Pete and I fell into a bit of a routine of hanging out on Saturdays and on Sundays, and then I went to work at the White House, and I remember him talking to me about the house he was preparing to buy in South Bend, the work he was doing there,” Lesser said. “I remember he called me one day and said that he was going to be running for state treasurer of Indiana and I thought that was a great idea.

“Unfortunately, that campaign didn’t go as planned,” he said. “But I think he did learn a lot. And he really got to be well-known in the state, but it was a really hard time. This was the 2010 election cycle, one of the hardest years for Democrats. Indiana in particular was a very interesting state at that time because it was really one of the ground zeroes of the recession. The Kokomo (Ind.) auto plant, for example, had laid off significant numbers of people. You had a significant auto industry in Indiana that was very hard hit by the recession.”

Buttigieg’s opponent in that race for treasurer, Richard Mourdock, went on to oppose the Obama administration’s bailout of the auto industry during the recession.

“I mean, he was actually suing to block the Obama auto rescue at the time and really hurting his own state, which had tens of thousands of jobs tied up in the auto industry,” Lesser said. “And (Buttigieg) really helped elevate that issue and bring that to the forefront.”

Not long after that, Buttigieg made a life-changing decision.

“He was approached by community leaders in his hometown in South Bend and I remember him calling me and saying, ‘you know, I’m thinking about running for mayor’ and I said ‘cool – that

sounds great.’ And of course, he won.”

While Buttigieg was settling in as mayor of that well-known college town, Lesser paid a visit and the two took in Lesser’s first Notre Dame football game.

“It was an out-of-body experience,” Lesser laughed, recalling the passion of the Fighting Irish faithful.

“It was pretty incredible. It was very cool and I saw firsthand how much he was, frankly, just beloved in his community.”

Lives intersecting again
Before the game, Lesser, staying at Buttigieg’s place, came downstairs while Buttigieg was dealing with – wait for it – a transportation issue.

“He was on the phone with his DPW about issues that had happened overnight,” Lesser said. “It was like first thing in the morning, he was on the line with this DPW head and now he’s dealing with a lot of the same issues – just on a bigger scale.”

Speaking of, Lesser can’t guarantee that Buttigieg can help move the needle on the East-West Rail project, which is now largely in the hands of MassDOT, including a second look at what the plan’s supporters, including Lesser, Rep. Jake Oliveira, Sen. Anne Gobi, and Rep. Todd Smola, say is a gross underestimate of projected ridership. But federal advocacy and funding is essential. Having an influential friend who also happens to be a fan of public transportation and infrastructure renewal can’t hurt.

“We’ll certainly be talking to him,” Lesser said.

“Now we have a federal government that’s going to be approaching rail and is going to be approaching mass transit from the standpoint of ‘how can we help’ rather than a standpoint of ‘how do we stop it.’ And frankly, that’s why I think it’s even more urgent that we have our state government do its part, which means that they need a ridership analysis that’s accurate,” he said.

“The Baker administration needs to make rail a bigger priority and they’ve got to do this improved demand analysis and they need to do a full environmental analysis of what the benefits would be,” Lesser said. “So, I don’t want to let the state off the hook because the Baker administration needs to do its part to really prioritize this project and get those ridership estimates where they need to be.”

“That being said, we have really a united front now federally that we haven’t had in a very long time. President Biden, all the way through his vice president, through his secretary of transportation, are now going to be looking at a project like this,” he said. “And Pete knows about this project because I’ve talked to him about it over the years. So he’s not going to be looking at it completely new.”

And if it comes to fruition during the Biden administration, the friendship between a small town intellectual from Indiana and another from Western Mass. could be partly to thank for it.

eligible for Challenge Cup points.

To register for the New England Late Model Challenge Cup, drivers must submit the entry form along with a \$100 registration fee by Monday, April 5. Entries postmarked by Monday, March 1 will be eligible for the Hoosier tire drawing. The entry form and point system outline are available at www.actour.com/NELMCC and on participating track websites. For more information, contact the ACT offices at (802) 244-6963, media@acttour.com, or visit www.acttour.com. You can also get updates on Facebook and Twitter at @ACTTour.

Connecticut’s New London-Waterford Speedbowl will be the second Connecticut track. Furthermore, four tracks from the New Hampshire Short Track Racing Association (NHSTRA) have signed up: Monadnock Speedway, Lee USA Speedway, Hudson Speedway, and Claremont Speedway.

Any competitor at the four NHSTRA tracks must use the ACT Late Model rules option the organization has introduced for the 2021 season. In other words, cars need to be 100% ACT legal for drivers to earn Challenge Cup points.

All weekly Late Model features at participating tracks will be eligible for the Challenge Cup. Registered drivers can earn

Challenge Cup points at any of the nine tracks. For example, a Thunder Road Late Model regular can also earn points at White Mountain, and a Thompson Speedway regular can also earn points at New London-Waterford Speedbowl or Monadnock Speedway.

A driver’s 10 best performances across all tracks count towards their NELMCC total. Points will be awarded based on finishing position, car count, and cars passed. The full system is available at www.actour.com/NELMCC.

Participating tracks are responsible for reporting results to the ACT offices. ACT Late Model Tour events and “open events” at these tracks are not

Ware Police Log

Monday, Feb. 1
2:06 a.m. Parking Complaint Webb Court – Citation Issued
2:47 a.m. Alarm Fire Ross Avenue – Referred to Other Agency
3:08 a.m. Parking Complaint Otis Avenue – Citation Issued
9:01 a.m. Ambulance Request Ross Avenue – Services Rendered
10:25 a.m. Ambulance Request Palmer Road – Services Rendered
11:22 a.m. Vandalism Barnes Street – Services Rendered
1:03 p.m. Accident, Vehicle Babcock Tavern Road – Motor Vehicle Accident Over \$1,000
5:25 p.m. Motor Vehicle Violation Pine Street – Criminal Complaint Issued
5:43 p.m. Ambulance Request Greenwich Road – Services Rendered
5:54 p.m. Accident, Vehicle South Street – Motor Vehicle Accident Over \$1,000
8:02 p.m. Accident, Vehicle Highland Street – Motor Vehicle Accident Over \$1,000

Tuesday, Feb. 2
1:15 a.m. Disturbance Highland Village – Arrest on Warrant
2:45 a.m. Ambulance Request Crescent Street – Services Rendered
4:21 a.m. Alarm Burglar West Street – Services Rendered
9:23 a.m. Motor Vehicle Theft Pleasant Street – Services Rendered
10:16 a.m. Ambulance Request South Street – Services Rendered
2:37 p.m. Ambulance Request Church Street – Services Rendered
3:59 p.m. Ambulance Request Crescent Street – Services Rendered
7:01 p.m. Ambulance Request Pulaski Street – Referred to Other Agency
7:17 p.m. Ambulance Request Park Street – Referred to Other Agency
7:39 p.m. Motor Vehicle Violation West Street – Citation Issued
11:58 p.m. Ambulance Request Fisherdkick Road – Services Rendered

Wednesday, Feb. 3
2:41 a.m. Parking Complaint Main Street – Citation Issued
4:04 a.m. Parking Complaint Eddy Street – Citation Issued
8:18 a.m. Town By-Law Violation Pleasant Street – Citation Issued
8:28 a.m. Town By-Law Violation Pleasant Street – Citation Issued
8:34 a.m. Town By-Law Violation Pleasant Street – Citation Issued
8:43 a.m. Parking Complaint Parker Street – Citation Issued
8:48 a.m. Ambulance Request Crescent Street – Services Rendered
8:50 a.m. Town By-Law Violation Main Street – Citation Issued
5:57 p.m. Accident, Vehicle North Street – Motor Vehicle

Accident Over \$1,000
6:17 p.m. Missing Person Glendale Circle – Investigation Pending
7:35 p.m. Accident, Vehicle West Main Street – Motor Vehicle Accident Over \$1,000

Thursday, Feb. 4
2:20 a.m. Ambulance Request Anderson Road – Referred to Other Agency
3:33 a.m. Parking Complaint Otis Avenue – Citation Issued
3:37 a.m. Parking Complaint Otis Avenue – Citation Issued
3:40 a.m. Parking Complaint Otis Avenue – Citation Issued
7:28 a.m. Abandoned, 911 Call Palmer Road – Services Rendered
8:54 a.m. Ambulance Request Crescent Street – Services Rendered
9:28 a.m. Fraud Barnes Street – Services Rendered
1:13 p.m. Motor Vehicle Violation Church Street – Written Warning
3:56 p.m. Arrest Otis Avenue – Arrest on Warrant
4:11 p.m. Ambulance Request Horseshoe Circle – Services Rendered
6:01 p.m. Ambulance Request Dugan Road – Referred to Other Agency
6:40 p.m. Ambulance Request Morse Avenue – Referred to Other Agency

Friday, Feb. 5
3:24 a.m. Parking Complaint Aspen Street – Citation Issued
3:30 a.m. Parking Complaint Aspen Street – Citation Issued
4:21 a.m. Ambulance Request Valley View – Referred to Other Agency
4:44 a.m. Administrative Work North Street – Citation Issued
6:15 a.m. Motor Vehicle Violation West Street – Citation Issued
10:13 a.m. Fraud Prospect Street – Services Rendered
10:27 a.m. Motor Vehicle Violation East Street – Written Warning
10:31 a.m. Ambulance Request Second Avenue – Services Rendered
12:16 p.m. Larceny, Theft Report West Street – Services Rendered
1:35 p.m. Fraud Sorel Road – Services Rendered
2:05 p.m. Ambulance Request Cummings Road – Services Rendered
2:28 p.m. Fraud Bacon Road – Services Rendered
3:28 p.m. Threat Report West Street – Services Rendered
4:38 p.m. Ambulance Request North Street – Services Rendered
6:29 p.m. Larceny, Theft Report North Street – Services Rendered

Saturday, Feb. 6
8:12 a.m. Drug/Narcotics Violation Pleasant Street – Services Rendered
11:30 a.m. Alarm Burglar Main Street – Services Rendered
12:55 p.m. Fraud Cottage Street – Services Rendered

Editor’s Note: People in this country are presumed to be innocent until found guilty in a court of law. Police provide us with the information you read on this page as public record information. If you or any suspect listed here is found not guilty or has charges dropped or reduced, we will gladly print that information as a follow-up upon being presented with documented proof of the court’s final disposition.

3:10 p.m. Harassment Complaint North Street – Services Rendered
7:47 p.m. Ambulance Request Hill Street – Referred to Other Agency
11:32 p.m. Disturbance North Street – Arrest, Misdemeanor Charge

Sunday, Feb. 7
12:42 a.m. Alarm Burglar West Street – Services Rendered
2:42 a.m. Ambulance Request Otis Avenue – Services Rendered
4:32 a.m. Parking Complaint West Main Street – Citation Issued
9 a.m. Ambulance Request South Street – Services Rendered
9:06 a.m. Ambulance Request Berkshire Circle – Services Rendered
10:06 a.m. Ambulance Request Fourth Avenue – Services Rendered
11:50 a.m. Missing Person North Street – Services Rendered
3:02 p.m. Accident, Vehicle Belchertown Road – Services Rendered
4:43 p.m. Accident, Vehicle Old Belchertown Road – Services Rendered
5:32 p.m. Hang-up, 911 Call North Street – Services Rendered
7:46 p.m. Hang-up, 911 Call Williston Drive – Services Rendered
9:49 p.m. Ambulance Request Main Street – Referred to Other Agency

Monday, Feb. 8
8:22 a.m. Town By-Law Violation Pleasant Street – Citation Issued
8:25 a.m. Town By-Law Violation Pleasant Street – Citation Issued
8:30 a.m. Town By-Law Violation Pleasant Street – Citation Issued
8:33 a.m. Town By-Law Violation Pleasant Street – Citation Issued
8:40 a.m. Town By-Law Violation Pleasant Street – Citation Issued
8:43 a.m. Town By-Law Violation Pleasant Street – Citation Issued
9:33 a.m. Town By-Law Violation Parker Street – Citation Issued

State awards public fire education grants to 239 fire departments

STOW – The Baker-Polito Administration announced Monday that 239 municipal fire departments will receive nearly \$2 million in grants to fund fire education programs for children and older adults across Massachusetts. Fire departments in 235 communities will receive Student Awareness of Fire Education, known as S.A.F.E. grants and Senior SAFE grants; four communities will receive S.A.F.E. grants only; and three communities will receive Senior SAFE grants only. The Ware and Warren fire departments will receive \$4,692 for the S.A.F.E. Program and \$2,480 for the Senior SAFE program. “Since 1996, the S.A.F.E. program has brought fire education to hundreds of thousands of students in the Commonwealth,” said Gov. Charlie Baker. “This program allows firefighters and teachers to work together to provide fire

and life safety education to young people. This collaboration contributed to a major accomplishment. No children died in fires in Massachusetts last year.” The average number of children dying in fires annually has dropped by 78% since the S.A.F.E. program began. The Senior SAFE Program is in its seventh year, providing firefighters with the funding to deliver fire safety education to another vulnerable population – seniors. “Home visits, smoke and CO alarm installations, and fire safety presentations at senior centers by firefighters with senior agencies help older adults develop strategies to stay safe at home for longer,” said Lt. Governor Karyn Polito. “The S.A.F.E. and Senior SAFE grants represent a smart investment in fire safety,” said Public Safety and Homeland

Security Secretary Thomas Turco. “Youngsters and older adults are historically at greater risk in house fires, but that risk can be reduced through the targeted outreach, education, and awareness programs these grants help to fund,” he added. State Fire Marshal Peter J. Ostroskey said, “The S.A.F.E. and Senior SAFE programs are successful because we have trained firefighters who deliver education to children and older adults. The fire departments being supported in these public education efforts are increasing the safety of the people in their communities.” The S.A.F.E. and Senior SAFE Programs provide \$1.9 million through the Executive Office of the Public Safety and Security to local fire departments. The programs are administered by the state Department of Fire Services.

Warren Police Log

Sunday, Jan. 31
4:01 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Ware Road – Vehicle Towed
Summons: John E. Berthiaume, 61, West Warren
License Suspended, Operate Motor Vehicle With; Registration Suspended, Operate Motor Vehicle With; License Not In Possession

Monday, Feb. 1
11:56 a.m. Falls Dean Street – Referred to Other Agency
12:37 p.m. Larceny/Theft Main Street- Investigated
12:44 p.m. Parking Violation North Street – Citation Issued
1:06 p.m. Motor Vehicle Collision/Fire Southbridge Road – Ambulance Signed Refusal
3:05 p.m. Welfare Check Quaboag Street – Report Filed
5:03 p.m. Threats Old West

Warren Road – Peace Restored
Rendered

Tuesday, Feb. 2
8:35 a.m. Breathing Difficulty Old West Warren Road – Transported to Hospital
8:37 a.m. Falls Yankee Drummer Drive – Referred to Other Agency
10:50 a.m. Illegal Dumping Gilbert Road – Message Delivered
11:18 a.m. Diabetic South Street – Transported to Hospital
2:02 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Citation Issued
4:21 p.m. Abdominal/Back Pain Quaboag Street – Transported to Hospital
5:17 p.m. Intoxicated Person Comins Pond Road – Transported to Hospital
7:27 p.m. Fire Alarm Activation Winthrop Terrace – Services

Wednesday, Feb. 3
5:43 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Citation Issued
2:17 p.m. Fraud/Forgery South Street – Officer Advised
2:47 p.m. Fraud/Forgery Main Street – Officer Spoke to Party

Thursday, Feb. 4
5:39 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Citation Issued
10:05 a.m. Fraud/Forgery Cronin Road – Report Filed

Saturday, Feb. 6
10:51 a.m. Motor Vehicle Accident Main Street – No Action Required
1:57 p.m. Childbirth Town Farm Road – Transported to Hospital

Show off East Quabbin Land Trust photos in contest

HARDWICK – The East Quabbin Land Trust will be holding a photo contest from Feb. 1 to June 1, giving people a chance to capture a little of the natural beauty of the East Quabbin region. Photos will be presented at a curated outdoor show on June 20. Prizes will include EQLT swag, a gift card to a local business and of course, bragging rights. All photos must be taken at an EQLT preserve and photos with watermarks will not be accepted. There is no limit to the amount of submissions each person can enter. Submissions may be entered until June 1. EQLT reserves the right to reject a submission for any reason. To submit, send and email to Jess Cusworth at jcusworth@eqlt.org to request the Dropbox link, which does not require a Dropbox account



Courtesy photo
The East Quabbin Land Trust is holding a photo contest from Feb. 1 to June. This one, entitled “Mandell Magic,” by Brian White, was the 2019 photo contest winner.
Those submitting should include their last name and the title of their photo in the file name, such as Cusworth_

WARE SCHOOLS from page 1

multiple failures. She compared failures from the first term in 2019 to the first term in 2020 In fourth grade, the individual class failures have gone from two to 27; in fifth grade there were more failing rates in 2019; in sixth grade, the failures have gone from 10 to 83; in seventh grade from 61to 119; in eighth grade from 116 to 134; in ninth grade from 43 to 162, in 10th grade from 15 to 48, in 11th grade from 13 to 56, and in 12th grade from 45 to 75. “This has been on our radar for awhile,” she said. “We’ve been working on strategies.” She said they have met with the families of students who are failing classes and have created a district committee to work on how to engage those students who are not interested in their classes. Some teachers have extended the deadlines for assignments and others have changed final exams to final projects. Extra-credit work has been made available and shortening assignments is also being tried. She said the district was also building a recovering learning plan to identify learning gaps and how to remedy them. When Desjardins asked what

families say when they are contacted about their children not doing well in school, Ware Middle School KatieAnn DeMars said some of them are very overwhelmed by circumstances and don’t know how to help them. She also said she and her staff check in often with such families. “It’s alarming to see the numbers there,” said Sawabi. “We have to move toward whatever we can do to get to the next level and getting students back into the schools safely.” Foran called the numbers “stunning visuals” and said some of the state money to help with issues caused by COVID-19 should be employed to help students. “It’s alarming, devastating to see these kids failing,” said Slattery. “They need to be back in school.” “The School Committee and the superintendent are trying to address a number of these issues,” said DiLeo. “It feels at times like mission impossible, but we’re going to give it our best shot.” Parent Jenafer Kularski said she has three students in the schools, and feels like one of them is essentially teaching himself. She also said that Ware’s rule that a student must not have any failures in order to play sports

should be loosened during these times as school is so difficult for some students. She said the Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association, which oversees schools sports, allows one failing class per semester. “Any little bit that we can give them to make their life better or easier or to feel a little normal we should consider,” she said. Desjardins sympathized with her, but said the committee would not change the rule unless other members wanted to do so. “They know that getting passing grades is the key to playing these sports,” he said of students. “They’re student athletes not athlete students. Playing sports is a privilege not a right.”

Pooled testing
DiLeo said the district is taking part in voluntary pooled testing for COVID-19 through the state, which will pay the costs until March 28. She said she and the nurses have received training on it and “it adds another layer of protection.” It is designed to identify those who may be COVID positive but have no symptoms. It would be voluntary for staff

and students, and parents would have to sign permission slips for their children to be part of the testing. Pooled testing involves mixing several test samples together in a “batch” or “pool,” and then testing the pooled sample with a diagnostic, PCR test for detection of SARS-CoV-2. This approach increases the number of individuals that can be tested using the same amount of laboratory resources as a single PCR test. The test is performed at least once per week on an anterior nasal swab and results are delivered within approximately 24 to48 hours. If a pooled test result is negative, then all individuals within that pool are presumed negative and may continue to remain in school. If a pooled test result is positive, then everyone in the pool is given an individual diagnostic test. Once positive individuals are identified, they must follow isolation guidance. Students, teachers, and staff that were close contacts of the positive case must quarantine according to current requirements. Under a state contract being developed, districts and schools are working with pooled testing service providers who will coordi-

nate with testing labs, implement a technology platform for tracking results, and provide training for school staff, and technical assistance. Tests will be analyzed at a CLIA-certified laboratory. DESE will assume the costs for the testing initiative during the initial start-up of the program, which it estimates will cost between \$15 and \$30 million, and be funded by federal stimulus funds. Following the initial launch, districts and schools may continue using pooled testing by purchasing the tests and any other accompanying testing materials and software from a statewide contract using their federal stimulus dollars. The district is estimated to get about \$1 million in federal money, which can be spent over a calendar year, although it must be used for services and expenses due to COVID-19. DiLeo said to continue the tests for the rest of the school year would cost \$91,000. “I’m not anti-testing by any means, but \$91,000 is a lot of money,” Desjardins said. “I want to make sure it would provide some benefits to the school.” Head nurse Jen Knight said the program could be re-evaluated while the state was paying the

costs, so it could be determined how many people were participating in it.

Food program
Food Services Director Jeff Nicholas asked the committee if there was a way to pay food service workers, who may not have any sick days accrued, if they have to say home due to being exposed to or being a close contact of someone who has tested positive. “We’re losing money every week, every month,” he said, and there isn’t money in the budget to pay those without sick days. In normal times the program sold anywhere between 600 and 800 lunches a day, which is now down to between 250 and 300. He said the program has tried to offer different menu items, and he and the managers continue to brainstorm how they could increase sales. “We need more kids,” he said. Desjardins encouraged him to return with any new ideas with which the School Committee could help them.

Obituaries

Ware River News
OBITUARY
POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

One is a free, brief **Death Notice** listing the name of deceased, date of death and funeral date and place.

The other is a **Paid Obituary**, costing \$100, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice and may include a photograph.

Death Notices & Paid Obituaries should be submitted through a funeral home to: obits@turley.com.

Exceptions will be made only when the family provides a death certificate and must be pre-paid.

Philip Roland Phaneuf

WEST BROOKFIELD – Philip Roland Phaneuf, age 65, passed away suddenly at his home on Saturday, Feb. 6, 2021. Philip was born in Ware, on March 6, 1955, beloved son of the late Roland and Doris (Harper) Phaneuf.

He was raised and educated in Ware, was a 1973 Springfield Technical High School graduate, and was a longtime Ware resident until moving to West Brookfield eight years ago. Philip was employed by Profiles Inc., of Bondsville, for over 25 years. Philip was a huge New England Patriots and Boston Red Sox Fan. Philip leaves behind his brother, Charles Phaneuf, of Florida, and his

loving sisters, Pauline Lemon and Beatrice Barlow, and brother-in-law, Bill Barlow, all of Ware. He also leaves behind many loving nieces and nephews. Philip was pre-deceased by his brother-in-law, Arthur “Pete” Lemon, in 2020.

A graveside service was held on Wednesday, Feb. 10, at 10:30 a.m. in Mount Carmel Cemetery in Ware. Philip was laid to rest next to his mother Doris. There were no calling hours. Cebula Funeral Home, of Ware, assisted his family with the final arrangements.

For more information and online guest book, please visit www.cebula-funeralhome.com.

Death notices

Campbell, Adrianna EJ
Died: Jan. 13, 2021
Celebration of Life held at later date.

Macie, Corinee
Died: Jan. 27, 2021
Services held at later date.

Phaneuf, Philip Roland
Died: Feb. 6, 2021
Services were private

Piché, Harold
Died Feb. 3, 2021
Funeral Mass: Feb. 12, 10 a.m.
All Saints Church
Ware

Congregational church to hold drive-thru chicken parmigiana dinner

BARRE — The Barre Congregational Church, 30 Park St., will host a drive-through chicken parmigiana dinner on Saturday, Feb. 27, with a pick-up time from 5 to 6 p.m. The meal also includes antipasto salad and dessert. Adults are \$12 and children under 12 are \$5. For reservations, people may call Lisa Holloway at 978-355-0140.

Harold A. Piché

THREE RIVERS – Harold A. Piché, 69, of Three Rivers, passed away on Wednesday, Feb. 3, 2021, with his family by his side.

He leaves the love of his life, his wife of 38 years, Patricia (Skura) Piché, his brother, Raymond Piché, of Ware, his sister-in-law, Janice Skura, his brother-in-law, Michael E. Skura, and his wife, Lorraine, of Belchertown, his nephews, Ryan Piché, Kyle Piché and Samuel Skura; his niece, Emily Jasmin, and his great-nieces, Megan Jasmin, Isabella Skura and Gracelyn Skura, and his loving companion, Charlie. He was born in Furth, Germany, son of the late Agnes (Krawietz) Piché. Harold was predeceased by his step-father, Armond Piché.

Harold was a United States Army veteran of the Vietnam War. After returning, he earned

his associate degree from Holyoke Community College. He worked as an electrical storekeeper at UMass University – Amherst, for 30 years, before retiring in 2014. Harold became part of the family, working as a dressman at Charbonneau & Varnum Funeral Homes in Ware and West Brookfield. He also enjoyed working with the Beers & Story Funeral Home team.

He loved sports and watched as often as he could, his beloved Patriots, Celtics, Bruins and Cowboys. Harold also greatly enjoyed his time on many local golf courses.

Harold lived most of his life in Ware, and was very active in the community that he so loved. He was a member of All Saints Church, where he served on several committees. He was a former communicant of the Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church. Harold was



also a member of the Knights of Columbus and the Amvets Post #74 of Three Rivers. In his younger years he enjoyed his time with his friends as a member of the Ware Wolves and the Dump Rats.

A funeral Mass followed by military honors for Harold will be held on Friday, Feb. 12, at 10 a.m., in All Saints Church, 17 North St., in Ware. There are no calling hours. Masks must be worn and social distancing guidelines must be followed while in the church.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the All Saints Church, 60 South St., Ware, MA 01082. Please notate the memorial gift in Harold’s name for the “Tiffany High Altar Window Project” in the memo line.

Charbonneau Funeral Home, 30 Pleasant St., in Ware, is assisting his family with arrangements. An online guest book is available at charbonneaufh.com.

Hardwick Town Election set for April 12

HARDWICK – The Annual Town Election will held on Monday, April 12. The last day to obtain and submit nomination papers to the Board of Registrars for certification by Monday, Feb. 22, by 5 p.m.

The last day to file nomination papers with Town Clerk is on Monday, March 8, by 5 p.m. The last day to object or withdraw nomination papers is Wednesday, March 10, by 5 p.m. The last day

to register to vote in the Annual Town Election, is on Tuesday, March 23, 8 p.m.

Voter registration will take place in the Myron E. Richardson Building at 307 Main St., Gilbertville on Tuesday, March 23, from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. This is the last day and hour to register voters who wish to vote at the Annual Town Election. Mail-in voter registrations will be accepted if postmarked no later than the March 23

deadline.

Financial statements must be filed by all candidate for election by the following dates even if the candidate has no financial activity to report. The first financial report is due April 5, by 5 p.m., and the second is due on May 12, at noon.

Minorities, females and individuals with disabilities are encouraged to run for office. The town of Hardwick is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Town is asking businesses to take survey

Interest in commercial facade grants to be determined

WARE – The town of Ware, through the Community Development Authority, is working with the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission to pursue funding from the state’s Community Development Block Grant in the

upcoming year.

If successful, one potential use of state grant funds would be to establish a Façade/Signage Improvement Program for downtown buildings in downtown Ware.

This program would provide grants and/or low-interest loans to assist business operators and commercial building owners with exterior improvement projects. Some of these projects can include improvements to signage, lighting, doorways, siding and other exterior features. As a downtown commercial

property owner or business operator, the town is asking for businesses’ assistance in measuring interest in this potential program, and in helping the town to fine-tune its parameters. Please complete the survey, which can be found online at www.surveymonkey.com/r/FacadeImprovement.

Anyone who has questions regarding the survey, should feel free to contact PVPC Community Development Planner Nick Peavy at 413-781-6045.

Golf outing helps area veterans, military families

WARE — Sponsors and golfers are needed for a May 7 golf outing that will benefit area veterans and military families.

The Operation Soaring Eagle Golf Tournament will be held May 7 at the Heritage Country Club in Charlton and will benefit The Brookfield Institute, a nonprofit that builds resilience in veterans and military families in order to aggressively combat the causes and impacts of veteran suicide.

Registration is now open for golfers. The outing costs \$125 per person and includes 18 holes in a scramble format with a shotgun

start, awards and a steak dinner. The outing is for ages 21 and older.

Sponsorships of all levels are still available, ranging from the tournament sponsor to hole sponsors. Sponsor benefits include golfing, recognition on banners, signs and websites and in media announcements and advertising.

“We’re excited to help people get to know The Brookfield Institute and its mission and that includes reaching out to different interest groups,” said Jennifer Baublitz, executive director. “This is our first event for golfers and was suggested by a board member

who recognizes the need to widen our outreach.

The golf outing will begin Friday, May 7, at 9 a.m., with a cocktail hour at 3 p.m., followed by the steak dinner and awards. The Heritage Country Club is at 85 Sampson Road in Charlton.

To become a sponsor for the Operation Soaring Eagle Golf Tournament, contact Beverly Prestwood-Taylor, beverly@brookfieldinstitute.org, 508-784-1546. To register golfers, go to www.brookfieldinstitute.org.

Nominations sought for region’s oldest community service award

SPRINGFIELD – The Advertising Club of Western Massachusetts is seeking nominations from throughout Hampden, Hampshire, Franklin and Berkshire counties for the Pynchon Award, which recognizes those citizens

of our region who have rendered distinguished service to the community.

The Order of William Pynchon was established by the Advertising Club in 1915 to recognize and encourage individuals whose lives and achievements typified the ideals of promoting citizenship and the building of a better community in western Massachusetts. Past recipients include war heroes, social activists, teachers, volunteers, philanthropists, historians, clergy, physicians, journalists, public servants, and business leaders — a diverse group; each with a passion for our region and a selfless streak. A complete list of recipients since 1915 can be found at <http://www.adclubwm.org/events/pynchonaward>.

To nominate an individual, please submit a one-page letter explaining why the nominee should be considered. Please include biographical information, outstanding accomplishments, examples of service to the community, organizations he or she is or has been active in, and the names, phone numbers and e-mail addresses of at least three people who can further attest to the nominee’s eligibility for induction into the Order of William Pynchon. The Pynchon Trustees respectfully reserve the right to eliminate nominations from consideration due to insufficient information.

Qualifying nominees will be considered and researched by the Pynchon Trustees, composed of the current and five past presidents of the Advertising Club. Nominations must be submitted by March 19, 2021 to: William Pynchon Trustees, Advertising Club of Western Massachusetts, P.O. Box 1022, West Springfield, MA 01090-1022 or by e-mail to info@adclubwm.org.

For more information, go online to adclubwm.org.

In loving memory of

JOSEPH KABANIUK

10/20/27 - 2/11/17

We missed you today
We will miss you tomorrow
Tears in our eyes
And hearts full of sorrow
We hold on to the memories
Of the great times we’ve had
We grieve for what we lost
But are so thankful for what we had

Forever missing you.
Love, your wife, daughters & family

CHURCH DIRECTORY

TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH
“An Open and Welcoming Faith Community”
Park & Pleasant Streets
P.O. Box 447, Ware, Massachusetts 01082
413-967-6100 trinityware.org
Jubilee Cupboard – 967-3274
The Rev. Mary E. Rosendale
D.D. - Bishop Episcopal Diocese Western Massachusetts
Office Hours: Tuesday-Thursday, 10am-2pm and by appt, Please call the cell number: 413-687-5568

SUNDAY SCHEDULE
Holy Eucharist at 10 a.m., Children’s Chapel 9:30 a.m.
“You don’t have to be Episcopal to share the Word and Fellowship of the Spirit” No matter who you are or where you have been, You are welcome.

THE JUBILEE CUPBOARD provides emergency food assistance and is open Thursday from 9 AM until noon. The location is next door to Trinity Church directly behind the Old Ware Fire Station. Please phone 413-967-3274. Donations of non-perishable food are welcomed by The Jubilee Cupboard during open hours only or make arrangements for pickup. Food may also be donated to The Jubilee Cupboard at a drop off box at the Big Y Supermarket in Ware.
AA Thursdays, 7:30pm

UNITED CHURCH OF WARE
49 Church Street, Ware, MA 01082
413-967-9981

Office Hours: Monday 9-12/Tuesday 8:30-12:30/
Wed 9-2/Thurs 9-12/Friday closed

Saturday: Worship service 5:00 p.m (Communion offered each week, Healing Worship on second Saturday of each month)
Narcotics Anonymous 7:00 p.m.
Sunday: Worship service 10:30 a.m. (Communion offered first Sunday of each month)
Adult Bible Study 9:30 a.m., Sunday School - 10:45 a.m., Children’s Church after Children’s Sermon each Sunday, Coffee hour after service
Tuesday: T.O.P.S. 5:00 p.m.
Wednesday: Weight Watchers 5:00-7:30 p.m.

ALL SAINTS CHURCH
17 North Street, Ware
ST. MARY’S CHURCH
57 South Street, Ware
Pastor: Rev. Fr. Piotr Calik

General Office Hours:
Monday - Thursday: 9am - 12pm; Friday: Closed
Cemetery Office Hours:
Monday - Thursday: 10am - 2pm; Friday: Closed
Phone numbers: 413-967-5913; 413-967-4963
Fax Number: 413-967-4679
Emails: allsaintschurch17@gmail.com
stmaryschurch60@gmail.com
www.allsaintsware.org • www.stmarysware.org

Mass Schedule:
4:00 PM Saturday - All Saints
5:15 PM Saturday - St. Mary’s

8:00 AM Sunday - All Saints
9:30 AM Sunday - St. Mary’s
5:15 PM Sunday - All Saints

WEEKDAY MASSES
Monday and Tuesday 7:30 AM at All Saints
Wednesday and Thursday 7:30 AM at St. Mary’s
First Friday 8:00 AM at All Saints
First Saturday 8:00 AM at St. Mary’s

SACRAMENT OF CONFESSION
All Saints – Saturday 3:00 - 3:30 PM
St. Mary’s – Saturday before the 5:15 PM Mass

HOLY DAYS OF OBLIGATION
Vigil: 5:30 pm at All Saints
Day: 7:30 am - All Saints
12:10 pm - St. Mary’s
6:30 pm - St. Mary’s

Parish Office for both Churches is located at 60 South Street, Ware - MA 01082.
Due to Covid-19 pandemic time our office is open by appointment only.

THE CHURCH OF ST. ALOYSIUS
58 Church St., Gilbertville, Tel. 477-6493
The Rev. Richard Lembo, Pastor
Saturday Confession: 3 p.m.; Vigil Mass: 4 p.m.
Sunday Mass: 7:30 a.m.

ST. AUGUSTINE MISSION
98 Church Lane, Wheelwright, MA
413-477-6493
The Rev. Richard Lembo, Pastor
Sunday 9 a.m.

HOLY CROSS POLISH NATIONAL CATHOLIC CHURCH
61 Maple St., Ware, Tel. 967-3782
Fr. Senior Fryderyk Banas, Pastor
Sunday: 9 a.m. Mass

LIBERTY BAPTIST CHURCH
(formerly QVBC)
258A Malbouef Road, Ware
Phone: 413-668-7041
Email: LBC7@gmail.com
Web: www.lbc7.com

Sunday Service times:
9:30am Prayer and Fellowship
10:00am Bible School
11:00am Worship Service

The LBC family of believers invite you to join us as we work together to serve God in our community.

We are dedicated to spiritual growth through purposeful prayer, truthful teaching, and practical preaching.

We rely on the Bible as our source of all Godly wisdom and truth.

We proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior given freely by God and offered to all who choose to believe in Him.

GEORGE WHITEFIELD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
33 West Main St. West Brookfield
Tel. 508-867-3667
Pastor Christy Wright

Worship and Sunday School, Sundays 9:30 am followed by coffee hour.

THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS
108 New Braintree Rd., North Brookfield
774-286-1322
SUNDAY SCHEDULE Services start at 10 a.m.

TRI-PARISH COMMUNITY CHURCH
3 Oakham Rd., P.O. Box 202
New Braintree 508-867-3306

The Tri-Parish Community Church represents the communities of Gilbertville, Hardwick, and New Braintree. Our service will begin at 10:00. Bible Study begins on 9/13 at 8:15 am - 9:30am. Choir Rehearsals are at 9am and Sunday School returns on 9/13 at 10:00 am. We are worshipping at The First Universalist Church of Hardwick, 9 Ruggles Hill Rd. Hardwick through December.

All are welcome to worship and join in fellowship and light refreshment following the service.

Change of Office Hours: Tuesdays & Thursdays 10am - noon. Heidi Jeldres, Administrative Assistant. (508)867-3306 tri-parish@verizon.net.

Appointments can be scheduled at either the Pastor’s office or at your home when needed. Please contact Pastor Deb to make arrangements. debashesps@aol.com or (413)476-0731. Beginning 7/6 our Worship Service move to The First Universalist Church of Hardwick through the end of the year. From 7/6 - 8/31 Worship will begin at 9:30 am. All are welcome.

The mission of the Tri-Parish Community Church is service to God by working together as a church to alleviate suffering and to foster hope, love and the word of Jesus Christ among our family and neighbors here and throughout the world.

It’s always good to have a variety of voices in the pulpit. Come, support our worship leaders and enjoy the earlier service.

ST. PAUL CATHOLIC CHURCH
1082 Main Street, Warren, Tel. 436-7327
MASS SCHEDULE: Sundays 8:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m.

ST. STANISLAUS CHURCH
2270 Main Street, West Warren
MASS SCHEDULE Saturdays 4 p.m.

QUABBIN VALLEY CHURCH OF CHRIST
43 Main Street, Ware, MA
Sunday Morning service: 10:30am – 11:30am
For more info James Chaisson 774-200-0542
Email: goodnews@quabbinvalleychurch.net
Website: www.quabbinvalleychurch.net

KINGDOM BUSINESS R.E.A.C.H MINISTRIES
(Realistic Evangelistic Active Christian Hearts)
Pastor, Rev. Dr. Errol J. Estridge
58 Main St, Ware, MA Tel. 413-668-9981
email: thekingdombusiness.ware@verizon.net
Tues 6-7pm, Substance Recovery Ministry
Wednesday 6:00-7:00 pm, Bible Study
Thursday 6:00-7:30 pm, Women Ministry
Friday 6:00-7:00 pm, Prayer Meeting
Saturday TBA, Men’s Ministry
Sunday 10:30, Sunday Worship
C. H. A. N. C. E. Tutoring Ministry (Children Having a Nurturing and Caring Environment)
September - May, After school, Monday - Thursday 4:00-6:00pm

UPPER ROOM CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP
18 Central St., West Warren, Tel. 436-7559
Joel Hickey, pastor
Sunday: 10 a.m. worship; Thursday: 7 p.m. Intercessory Prayer

UNIVERSALIST-UNITARIAN
St. Paul’s Church of Palmer
1060 Central St., Palmer, MA, 283-8185
Sunday: 10:00 am service followed by coffee hour. Children’s Religious Education also at 10:00 am.

OUR LADY OF THE SACRED HEART PARISH
Sacred Heart Church 22 W. Main St., West Brookfield
& St. Mary Oratory 11 Lincoln St., Brookfield
508-867-6469
rectory@sacredheartwb.com
website: ourladyofthesacredheart.org
Mass Times:
M-Th 8:00am @ Sacred Heart
Saturday Vigil 4:30pm @ St. Mary
Sunday 8:00am & 10:30am @ Sacred Heart
Holy Day Vigil 7:00pm @ St. Mary
Holy Day 9:00am @ St. Mary & 7:00pm @ Sacred Heart

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF WEST BROOKFIELD, UCC
36 N. Main St., Ware, Tel. 967-0211
Interim Pastor - The Rev. Stacey Kullgren
Worship 10 AM
Sunday School - 10 AM (except the first Sunday of each month)
Call for Bible Study and Youth Group meeting times.

WARE BIBLE BAPTIST CHURCH
56a Main St., Ware, Tel. 967-0211
Pastor Jim Van Elten, B.A.D.F.
Sunday: 11 a.m. worship service, nursery and children’s church, 4 p.m. worship service
Wednesday: 7 p.m. Bible Study/Prayer Fellowship

WARE CONGREGATION OF JEHOVAH’S WITNESSES
Sunday 10:00 a.m. Weekend Meeting
Tuesday 7:00 p.m. Midweek Meeting

EMMANUEL ORTHODOX CATHOLIC CHURCH
25 Winthrop Terrace, Warren, MA 01083
(413) 436-5582
Fr. Christopher Nerreau
www.emmanuelorthodox.org
Morning Matins Sundays 9:00am
Confession 2nd Sunday of the month 9:00am or by appointment
Holy Mass Sunday’s 9:30am, Coffee hour following Mass
Free Community Meal: First Tuesday of the month. All are welcome

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MISCELLANEOUS

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1-800-506-3367

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little to no cost. Get yours today! Call
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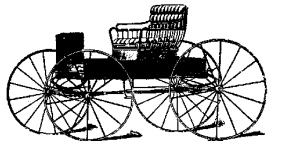
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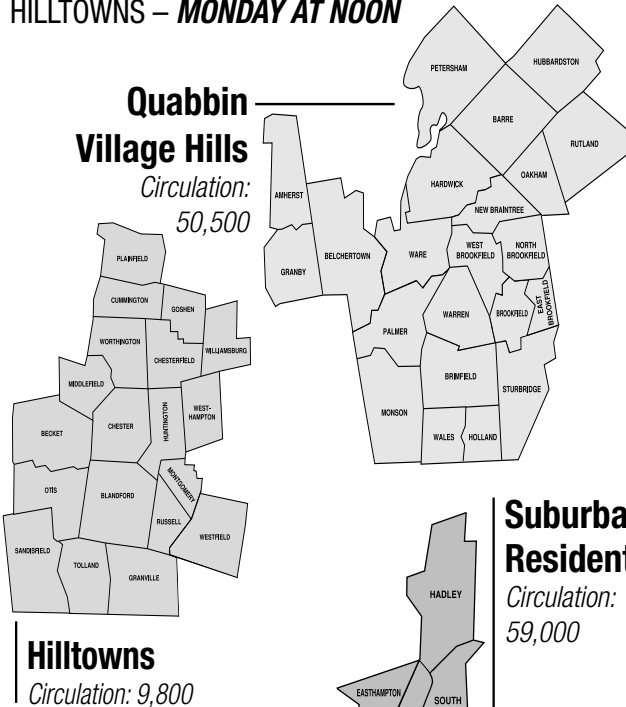
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